



REFERENCE



COLLECTIONS




S-R

974.8

P 38611

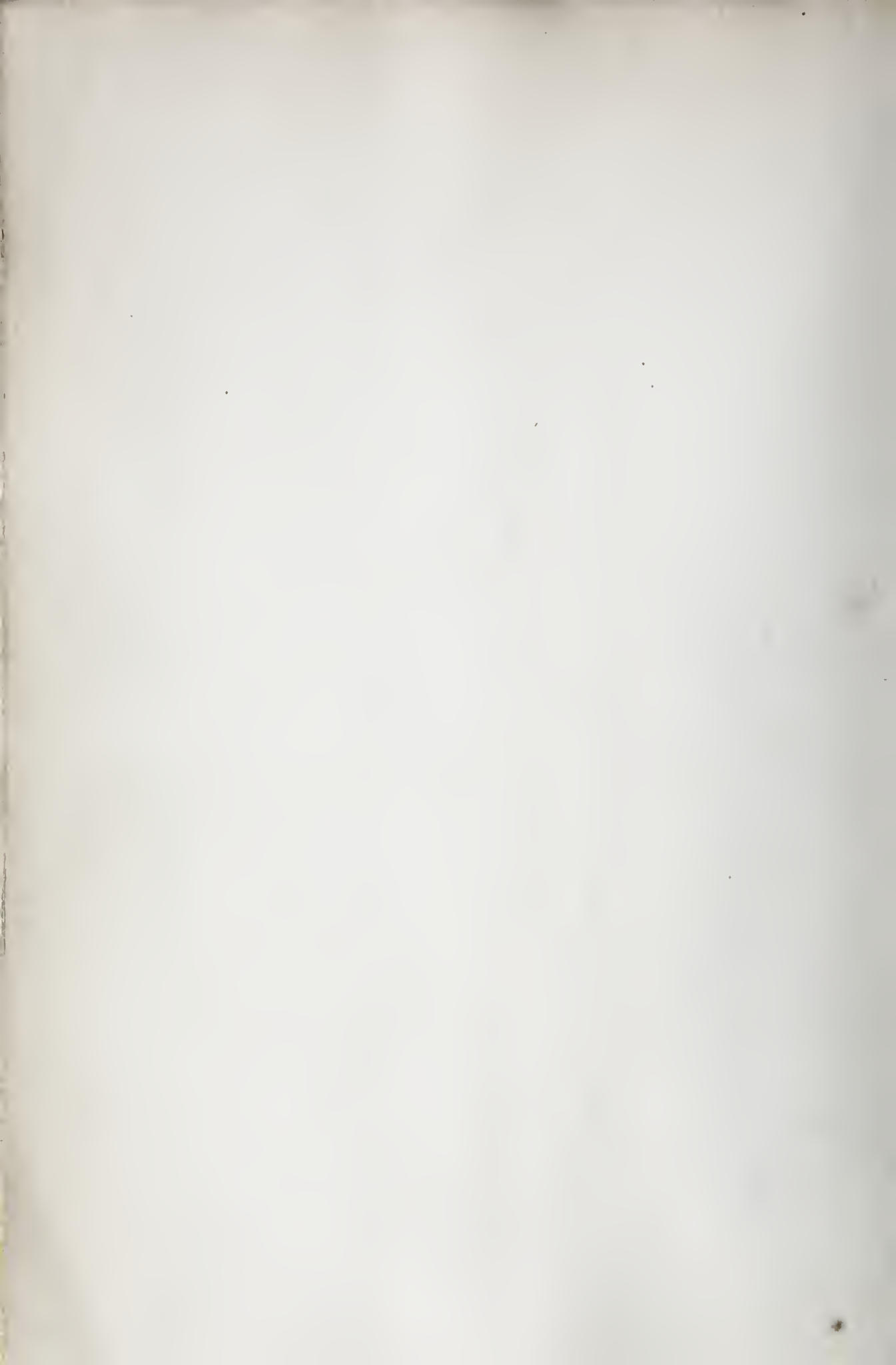
V 15





Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2018 with funding from

This project is made possible by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services as administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education through the Office of Commonwealth Libraries



# MARK TWAIN'S SCRAP BOOK.

---

## PATENTS:

UNITED STATES.

JUNE 24TH, 1873.

GREAT BRITAIN.

MAY 16TH, 1877.

FRANCE.

MAY 18TH, 1877.

## TRADE MARKS:

UNITED STATES.

REGISTERED NO. 5,896.

GREAT BRITAIN.

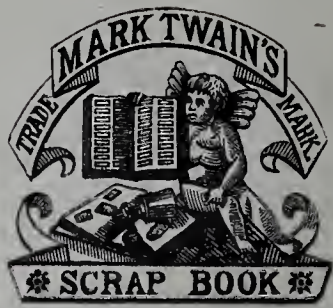
REGISTERED NO. 15,979.

## DIRECTIONS.

Use but little moisture, and only on the gummed lines. Press the scrap on without wetting it.

---

DANIEL SLOTE & COMPANY,  
NEW YORK.





INDEX.

A	Page	B	Page
B		C	

# INDEX.

[illegible]

From, *Ledger*

*Phila & Pa*

Date, *Oct 16 1895*

## WASHINGTON'S CROSSING.

THE PLACE ON THE DELAWARE  
MARKED BY IMPOSING MONUMENTS.

CEREMONIES AT THE DEDICATION

ADDRESSES BY GENERAL WILLIAM S.  
STRYKER AND DWIGHT M. LOWREY.

HEROIC DEEDS RECALLED.

MANY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWO  
HISTORIC SOCIETIES PRESENT.

[SPECIAL TO THE PUBLIC LEDGER.]

TAYLORSVILLE, Pa., Oct. 15.—The dedication and unveiling of the monument erected by the Bucks County Historical Society, marking the place on the site of McKonkey's old ferry where Washington crossed the Delaware on Christmas night, 1776, which was postponed last Tuesday on account of bad weather, took place this afternoon. Despite the chilling wind and threatening rain a large crowd gathered from the neighboring villages, many even coming from such distances as Trenton, Doylestown, Newark and Philadelphia.



## BUCKS COUNTY HISTORICAL MONUMENT AT TAYLORSVILLE.

The exercises began at 2 o'clock with music by the Dollington band. General W. W. H. Davis, of Doylestown, President of the society, after prayer had been offered by Rev. Alphonse Dare, of Yardley, introduced General William S. Stryker, of Trenton, who delivered an address, recalling the incidents surrounding Washington's crossing of the Delaware and the battle of Trenton.

### General Stryker's Address.

General Stryker depicted in a graphic manner the horrible suffering of the Continental troops on that Christmas day, the depression of the people that so little had been accomplished, and the feasting and revel of the Hessian soldiers at their Trenton encampment. He then told of the supper and council of Washington's staff on Christmas eve, in Samuel Merrick's house, on the Newtown road, where the Commander-in-chief laid before his officers the plan of the famous surprise and attack; the great difficulties encountered in the crossing the river by reason of the high wind, the floating ice and the blinding snow, and, finally, of the great victory at Trenton.



MONUMENT OF THE CININNATI AT WASHINGTON CROSSING.

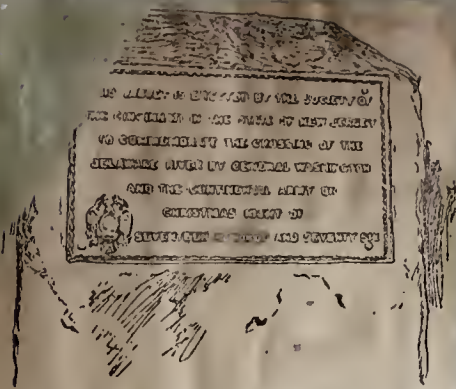
In conclusion he said: "It is just and fitting, nay, it is a duty to mark in loving remembrance the spots where great deeds have been enacted, or where great men have lived and died, and in this way to commemorate to future ages the magnificent heroism of the men who suffered that the nation might endure. By monuments alone can we fittingly rescue from oblivion the achievements of those who, in the hour of greatest trial, fought for personal liberty and national independence."

### The Monument Unveiled.

After the large flag which covered the newly erected monument of granite had been removed by Miss Bessie Twining, daughter of Mrs. S. W. Twining, of Yardley, who gave the brownstone slabs to the society, Dwight M. Lowrey, of Philadelphia, delivered an eloquent oration.

Mr. Lowrey said in part: "When in the chronicle of wasted time we read for knowledge of the contributions which earlier generations have made to the advancement of the interests which humanity holds most dear, we learn of no single event more inspiring or more fruitful of beneficent consequences than





TABLET ON THE CINCINNATI MONUMENT.

the heroic action which we, in filial piety, have met to-day to commemorate on both sides of the river, by votive tablet and by appropriate and imposing monument."

The speaker then described how the enthusiasm of the colonists had been enkindled by the first victories and raised by the Declaration of Independence, and how after five months it had been changed to despondency by defeat and disaster. It was Washington who, in this dark hour, by his bold stroke stemmed the tide of defeat and again raised the hopes of the people.

#### A Tribute to Washington.

Of the great hero, Mr. Lowrey said: "This Republic may pass away. Another race may succeed us and dwell in the homes where we now happily reside. Our own descendants may forget the language in which we speak, even as we have forgotten the tongue in which our Saxon ancestors recorded the sentiments of their heart and the annals of their achievement; but while history shall preserve the memory of those who have sacrificed and striven for the welfare of men, while literature shall exalt the renown and extol the character of the virtuous and just, the name of George Washington will continue to be held in reverent remembrance, an inspiration and an encouragement to every generous and devoted effort to ameliorate the condition of mankind."

Mr. Lowrey's remarks were followed by the reading of a poem and the singing of a song, both of which were composed by Miss M. Harcourt Clark, of New York, who formerly resided at this place. A number of Sunday-school children, who had come from Pennington, sang several patriotic airs, and, after the benediction had been pronounced by Rev. E. M. Jefferys, of Doylestown, the crowd crossed the bridge to the New Jersey side of the river, where a tablet, erected by the Society of the Cincinnati of that State, was also unveiled.

#### The Society of the Cincinnati's Tablet.

The flag in this case was removed by Miss Ada Byron Nelson, daughter of Dr. Nelson, of Neshauc, New Jersey.

Judge Sims, of Newark, President of the Society, was to have made the address, but he was unable to be present, so William Pennington, of Newark, read the address which the President had prepared. It is eminently proper, he said, that the monument should be erected by the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of New Jersey. The society was formed at the close of the Revolutionary War, in 1783, by the New Jersey officers who had served in the American Army, and to-day the society is perpetuated by the descendants of these officers.

Concluding, he said: "On their behalf I

present to you, my fellow-citizens of Doylestown, this monument, and I ask you to care for it as a memorial of an important event in the history of our country."

Among the prominent citizens of this section who were present were: Prof. A. E. Martin, Principal of the Doylestown High School; Henry A. James, Edward H. Buckman, Chas. F. Meyers, Rev. Levi C. Sharp, Robert H. Lyman and Joseph W. Shelly, of Doylestown; ex-Sheriff Comly, Robert Eastburn, Thomas C. Knowles and A. C. Cadwalader, of Yardley; John S. Williams, Dr. J. B. Walter and Hampton W. Rice, of Solisbury; Captain William Wynkoop and J. P. Hufschinson, of Newlown; Isaac Van Horn, of Richboro, and Samuel F. Gwinn, of Taylorsville.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown Pa*  
 Date, *Oct 30 1898*

## DOYLESTOWN.

### Historical Facts About the County Seat.

Doylestown, the seat of justice of Bucks, is within a mile of the geographical centre of the county. It is built on land that once belonged to the "Free Society of Traders," at the junction of two highways, one leading from the mouth of the Lehigh to Philadelphia; the other from the Delaware at New Hope, to Norristown on the Schuylkill.

The town takes its name from the Doyle family, who were among the earliest to settle in middle Bucks, and was founded about 1720-30, becoming the county seat in 1813 on its removal from Newtown.

When Doylestown was made the county seat it was a hamlet of a few houses and two taverns, where the highways crossed, and for many years the growth was very slow.



was a town  
h. VI  
ted  
a E

Becoming the county's capital changed its destiny. It was incorporated into a borough in 1858. This inspired new village life, but there was no significant improvement until the close of the war of the Rebellion, when many buildings, including schools and churches, were erected. By the census of 1890 the population was 3000. The present court house and jail are not excelled by any similar buildings in the State, and the public school is a model. The town is some 500 feet above tide water.

Several things add a charm to Doylestown as a place of residence. It is seated in the midst of one of the loveliest sections of Eastern Pennsylvania, and the country about it is cultivated almost like a garden; the land falls away on three sides to the adjoining streams, and at every rain the gutters are cleansed by the natural flow of the water; the air is pure and sweet by the absence of stagnant pools and decaying vegetable matter; fine roads lead in all directions into the charming country that surrounds it, and well-kept turnpikes run from the town north, south and east. Good health is its normal condition.

The town plot is of a character that adds much to the picturesqueness of the borough. The squares and streets have nothing about them that partake of the checker-board stiffness, while the trees that line all the streets afford welcome shade to the pedestrians in the warmest weather. There is a quaintness about the dwellings that attracts the observer, scarcely any two being built alike.

The lover of history may draw inspiration from the past of Doylestown. In addition to the local events transpiring around it, in its almost century and three-quarters of life, there lingers within its borders an aroma of the Revolution most pleasant to the senses.

The Continental Army passed through Doylestown on its march from Valley Forge in June, 1778,

to intercept the British at Monmouth, encamping here overnight, and the house wherein Washington quartered is still standing almost within the shadow of the court house steeple. Doylestown was also the headquarters of General John Lacey, the Quaker Brigadier, who kept watch and ward over the Delaware - Schuylkill peninsula,

while Washington's army shivered and froze in the cheerless huts at Valley Forge. The residents of our borough have cause for congratulation that their lines have fallen in such pleasant places.

ELEANOR H. DAVIS.

From, *Lucie*  
*Philad & PA*  
Date, *Dec 15 '95*

## LITTLE BITS OF STATE HISTORY

THE WORD BENSALEM AND ITS MUCH-  
DISCUSSED ORIGIN.

PERHAPS GROWDEN NAMED IT

Negro Slavery in Pennsylvania Always of  
a Mild Type—The History of the County  
Seat of Bucks—The First Court House  
Built by Jeremiah Langhorne in 1684.

The origin of the word "Bensalem," the name given to one of the oldest, largest and richest townships of Bucks county, has remained unsettled from its foundation. Some profess to find the solution in Lord Bacon's ingenious fiction of the New Atlantis, wherein an imaginary island in the Atlantic Ocean is called "Bensalem," and the word is said to be an Hebrew compound. But as there is no such Hebrew compound, the Baconian origin has no foundation in fact. The jury that laid out the township gave it the name of "Salem," meaning peace, or peaceful. The word "Bensalem" is found in the county records as early as 1686, six years before the township was laid out; and, in 1688, the Growdens called their 5,000 acres



Manor of Bensalem." From this it would appear the name was first applied to the manor and not to the township, and when the township was laid out it was first called "Salem" instead of "Bensalem." We are, therefore, left much to conjecture, but the township, doubtless, borrowed the name from the "Manor." The Growdens were Friends. Joseph Growden fixed the site of his homestead near the northwest line of the manor and the township, whence he could see a wide scope of wilderness country falling away to the Neshaminy and Delaware. Being a Friend and prone to peace, the word Bensalem fitly expressed his thoughts and feelings. The name was first applied to the site he had chosen for his residence, the "Hill of Peace" or "Peaceful Mount," afterward given to the manor, and then to the township; but when the name was given to the township he changed that of his homestead to Trevoise, which it bears to this day. It was no difficult thing for this cultivated Friend, by the union of the Gaelic "Ben," or hill, with the Hebrew word for peace, to form a new word expressing the delightful tranquillity he experienced at his new home in the wilderness along the Neshaminy. After all this is only theory, but is quite as sensible as the one that borrows the name from Bacon's fiction and invents an Hebrew compound.

Negro slavery was introduced in what is now Pennsylvania by the early Dutch settlers. We find negroes on the west bank of the Delaware as early as 1636, but not in any great number. In 1639 one Colnclife was sentenced to serve "along with the blacks," besides paying a fine, for wounding a soldier. In 1657 Vice Director Alricks was complained of for using the company's oxen and negroes, and five years afterward Vice Director Beeman wanted Governor Stuyvesant to "accommodate him with a company of negroes," which he needs. These negroes were slaves, for at that time black men everywhere were in bondage.

Long before Penn the English and Dutch were actively engaged in the African slave trade, which the demand for labor in this and adjoining colonies made profitable. As it was under the protection of the English Government Penn had no control over it. A number of slaves came into the possession of the Quaker immigrants, and the great founder himself was a slave holder, but we venture nothing in saying he was a kind master. Negro slavery in Pennsylvania was always of a mild type. Hector St. John, writing of negro slavery just before the revolution, says: "In Pennsylvania they enjoy as much liberty as their masters; are as well fed and as well clad, and in sickness as tenderly taken care of. Being the companions of their labors and treated as such they do not work more than ourselves, and think themselves happier than many of the lower class of whites."

Negro slaves were held in Berks county as early as 1684, and no doubt earlier. In that year, among the goods of William Pomfret, levied on to satisfy a debt due Gilbert Wheeler, of the Falls, was "one man." In June, 1685, William Penn, hearing that James Harrison, then engaged in erecting his manor house, has great difficulty in retaining laborers, wrote him: "It were better they were blacks, for then we might have them for life." He wrote to Harrison, December of the same year: "The blacks of

Captain Allen I have as good as bought, so part not with them without my order." On the eve of Penn's return to England in 1701, he made a will liberating those in Pennsylvania, leaving it with James Logan."

The history of the changes of the county seat of Bucks is not without interest. As the settlements extended back into the interior from the Delaware, the county seat sought the centre of population. It is difficult to locate the first court house. It was built by Jeremiah Langhorne before or by 1686, and was probably in Falls township, as in July of that year it was proposed to hold Falls meeting for four months in the new Court House, and pay the county ten shillings rent; but as there was "no convenience of seats and water" it was not occupied. Several points claim the honor of the parent Court House. It doubtless stood near the Delaware, and no great distance below Morrisville, and we know court was held a few times in William Bile's kitchen. In 1700 the grand jury presented the necessity of "placing a court house near the centre of the county, which we esteem to be near Neshaminy Meeting House," now Langhorne. It could not have remained long, if established there, for the county seat was changed to Bristol in 1705, the new buildings being erected on a lot, the gift of Samuel Carpenter. It was then called "New Bristol," and the courts were first held there June 13 the same year. Bristol was the county seat until 1725, when it was again changed, this time to Newtown, following the drift of population. The act was passed March 24, 1724. The public buildings were erected on a five-acre tract in the middle of the village. Here the courts were held until 1812—eighty-seven years—a longer period than at any other place since the county was organized, when they were removed to Doylestown. The present county seat, now eighty-three years. There was a warm contest over this change, and it was urged for many years before the effort was crowned with success. Cutting off Northampton county from Bucks had something to do with keeping the county seat at Newtown for so many years. Politics and religion joined hands in the removal of the county seat to Doylestown. This was emphasized by a charcoal sketch on the walls of the old building at Newtown, representing the Reverend Nathaniel Irwin, a warm advocate of the change, with a rifle over his shoulders and around the court house, pulling with might and main toward Doylestown.

Burlington Island, in the Delaware opposite Bristol, has an interesting history. It early came into notice. It was recognized as belonging to the west shore from its discovery, and was included in Markham's first purchase. The Indians called it Mattiniconk, which name it bore down to Penn's arrival. This name is given to it on Lindstrom's map of 1654. When the English seized the Delaware in 1634 it was in the possession of Peter Alricks, and was confiscated with the rest of his property, but restored in 1668 by order of Governor Lovelace. During its confiscation it got into the possession of Captain John Carre and was called Carre's Island for a time. The earliest use made of the island was the establishing on it of frontier trading and military posts. It was here that Alricks' two Dutch servants were murdered in 1672. In 1678 Sir Edmund Andros leased the island for seven years to Robert Stacy, brother of



Mahlon, one of the first settlers of West Jersey. Stacy and George Hutchinson, who appears to have become associated with him in its possession, conveyed the title to the island under the lease, but the deed was never found. When Jasper Danker and Peter Shuyter, leading member of the Labadists of Holland, visited the Delaware in 1679, going down the river in a boat to New Castle, they say of Burlington's island: "The island formerly belonged to the Dutch Governor, who had made it a pleasure ground or garden, built a good house upon it and sowed and planted it. He also dyked and cultivated a large piece of meadow or marsh, from which he gathered more grain than from any land made from woodland into tillable land. The English Governor at the Mannhattans now held it for himself, and hired it to some Quakers, who were living upon it."

Among the earliest acts of the Assembly of Pennsylvania, after the organization of the Province, was one confirming this island to Burlington, the proceeds to be applied to maintaining a free school for the education of youth of that town. In 1711 the Legislative Council of New Jersey authorized Lewis Morris, agent of the West Jersey Society, to take up this island for Hon. Robert Hunter, the warrant having been granted in 1710. When surveyed it was found to contain 400 acres. Hunter purchased it the same year, but the inhabitants of Burlington ousted him in 1729. In ye olden times the people of Burlington resorted thither for recreation. Governor Burnett, of New York, who occupied it in 1722, caused vistas to be cut through the timber to Burlington and Bristol, so as to look up and down the river. When Governor Gooker was about obtaining a grant of the islands in the Delaware to this Province, it is said the Lords of Trade excepted this as not being on a footing with the other islands.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown Pa*  
Date, *Dec 27 1895*

#### A New Hall With a History.

As paradoxical as it may appear Bristol has a new hall about which cluster many memories of the past. It is now known as Lincoln Hall, and although completely remodeled the original structure has stood for many years as an annex to the old Delaware House. Lafayette dined within its historic walls on September 24, 1824, when he was passing through Bristol on his way to Philadelphia. Many other prominent men of the past have been entertained there, among them being several Revolutionary heroes. While the work of reconstruction was in progress, several interesting relics were unearthed, among them being a copper penny bearing the date 1763.

From, *Record*  
*Philad A Pa*  
Date, *July 26 1896*

#### A PARK ON THE BRISTOL PIKE.

Another new park, which will owe its existence to suburban trolley extension, is to be located on the Bristol pike, at the junction of Poquessing Creek, on the Bucks County line. Taking advantage of the recent opening of the new Holmesburg, Tacony & Frankford trolley road, a syndicate, of which Magistrate Thomas South is at the head, has leased the Stevenson farm of 100 acres, and before summer it will be converted into "Torresdale Park." The lease calls for a rental of \$10,000 a year for 10 years, and the final papers for the transfer were signed only last week.

Workmen have already commenced to clear the land, and the naturally attractive spot will be converted into a very pretty park. A small lake is to be made, supplied with the waters of Poquessing Creek, for boating purposes, and in addition there will be a number of amusement attractions. Among them will be a gravity railroad, a mile long, a bicycle track, ball grounds, tennis courts and merry-go-rounds. An architect has already drawn plans for a cafe and restaurant building of ornamental design which will be built as soon as possible. In addition, a large dancing pavilion will be erected.

#### AN HISTORIC OLD PROPERTY.

About 30 acres of the tract is woodland, which will be converted into picnic grounds. The land is considerably above the level of Poquessing Creek, the woodland which skirts its border sloping back from the picturesque stream to an elevation of over 75 feet. The remainder of the land is open and rolling. It is a delightfully romantic spot, and no more adaptable location for a pleasure ground could have been chosen.

The land has been in the possession of the Tremper family for several generations, and has historic associations. It is recorded that early in the year 1675, seven years before Penn founded Philadelphia, four brothers named Walton explored the banks of the Poquessing and settled on the land which is now to be converted into a park. So its history dates back beyond the landing of Penn.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown Pa*  
Date, *Feb 7 1896*



## AN OLD BURYING GROUND.

A Paper Prepared by John S. Williams,  
of Solebury, and Read at the Meeting  
of the Bucks County Historical Society,  
January 21, 1896.

A mile and a half west from where the Tinicum creek enters the Delaware, in Tinicum township, on an elevated hill-side facing the southeast, is an old burying ground, known as the Marshall Graveyard. Local tradition informs us that near the middle of the last century two young women of the Marshall family, in a ramble over the country, stopped to enjoy the beautiful prospect from this hill, when one of them exclaimed, "When I die I want to be buried here." One authority says that before she reached her home a sudden shower came up and she was drowned in trying to cross the Tobickon creek; another, that she died of typhoid fever later in the season, but both agree that her wishes were respected and that she was laid at rest under a cedar tree in the present enclosure. This tree was struck by lightning a few years since, but the stump still remains. Local authorities place the time at which this occurred somewhere near 1760. The grave, so far as I can learn, is not marked, except by the location of the cedar stump.

The gravestone bearing the oldest date and the one which gives to this little yard its greatest historic interest is that of Edward Marshall, of the great Indian Walk. It is marked by a marble slab rising nearly four feet above the ground, and bears this inscription:

"In Memory of Edward Marshall, Sr.,  
who died Nov. 7, 1789. Aged 79 yrs."

"Unveil thy bosom, faithful tomb,  
And give these sacred relics room;  
Take this frail treasure to thy breast  
To slumber in the silent dust."

This tombstone was placed at his grave in 1829, by his relatives, and the inscription is said to have been written by his son, Thomas. Under what conditions this plot was used as a burying ground in its early occupancy seems to be at present unknown. The deed by which it is now held is dated March 22, 1822, and was made by Bernard Hillpot and Barbara, his wife, to William Ridge and William Marshall, of Pennsylvania, and Thomas Marshall, of New Jersey. It conveys 127 perches of land and was placed on record May 2, 1894, by Dr. A. M. Cooper, of Point Pleasant. The yard proper contains probably one hundred perches of land, the remaining 27 being outside the enclosure, shaded by cedar trees and having posts for tying horses, and also covering a lane running across a neighboring farm to the public road.

The property was originally a part of the Streeter tract. The wall enclosing it was erected by Rebecca Kean in 1851, the shingle roof which protected it having given way. Dr. A. M. Cooper in 1892 caused the wall to be repaired, somewhat raised and covered with a substantial coping of Point Pleasant stone, neatly dressed.

The grounds are in excellent condition.

Many of the gravestones are of modern design, and looking at them, were it not for the numerous old graves marked with the stones of the locality and presumably designating the resting places of those who were laid away a century or more ago, it would be difficult to imagine that this spot had been used a hundred and fifty years for its present purpose.

The position of the graves in the yard gives it an unusual appearance. The enclosure faces the southeast, with the end walls following the same direction, while the graves all range east and west, with the feet to the east. They thus run diagonally across the yard, instead of parallel with the walls.

Aside from the Marshalls, who are quite numerous represented, many other names are recorded on the tablets. The Ridges probably come next in number. They are direct descendants of Edward Marshall. The Coopers are also quite numerous. They are descended from Samuel Cooper, who married Grace Ridge, and at least three, probably more, generations of them are buried here. In looking over a chart of the Cooper family owned by Dr. A. M. Cooper, the name of J. Fenimore appears in the third generation from the Samuel named. This seems to verify the truth of the claim made by the Coopers, of Solebury, who have from time to time been brought to this old yard to be buried, that they were nearly related to the great novelist.

Of other marked graves are the McIntyres, Watsons, McDougals, Otts, Myers and Woods, but history fails to give us the clue to the much larger portion whose mounds are marked with unlettered native stones.

Unsuccessful efforts have been made at times to make these graves give up their secrets, but the years and the earth have combined successfully to thwart both friend and historian. The grounds are carefully kept and leave only pleasant impressions, and the thought occurred that too much commendation could not be given to the generous hands and loving hearts which had cared for and protected this old yard from the desolation which too often marks the private resting places of the dead.

Most of the surroundings of this notable spot take their coloring from the historic name of Marshall, the great walker, and his immediate descendants. Warrants were granted to Edward Marshall and his brothers, William and Moses, in 1733, for three tracts of land "above the Tobickon creek," commencing at the river and extending up the Tinicum creek; these lands were told by Buck, the historian, were surveyed by Nicholas Scull, Deputy Surveyor General, on the 9th of May, 1733, the last of the three tracts, which was deeded to Moses Marshall, reaching to and embracing the present Marshall graveyard, which will account for its location from near this early period.

The same year application was made in the Court of Quarter Sessions of Bucks County asking for the organization of a new township to be called Tinnicunk, signed by numerous residents "on lands adjacent to Plumstead," including the three Marshall brothers. Tinnicunk means in Indian parlance a "Wooded Island," and was probably applied to Marshall's Island,



in the Delaware, opposite the mouth of Tincum creek, which was willed to Edward Marshall by his brother William in 1787 and was his home from that date, with the exception of short intervals, until his death, which occurred there in 1789. His funeral took place from a house just below the Tincum creek, which Buck represents as still standing in 1873, but which Gen. Davis in his history concludes stood on the site of the present stone house, while Dr. Cooper thinks the frame house adjoining must have been the one, as he can recollect when the present stone house was built. We can safely conclude that it was an old house near this spot from which he was carried to his "faithful tomb" in the old burying ground. It is not the purpose of the writer to dwell on the life of Marshall, which has received careful and conscientious study, the results of which have enriched Gen. Davis' history of Bucks county, and Buck's story of the great walk.

As Edward Marshall was the father of twenty-one children, many of whom married and settled in this vicinity, doubtless from the vantage ground of the old graveyard the eye rests on the former homes of some of them. While the names of Ridge, Kean, Pursel, Weisel and McIntyre, borne by the married daughters, their children and grandchildren, are still prominent in the township, the name of Marshall I learn is not known as belonging to his descendants in this locality.

The present William A. Ridge, living on the banks of the Delaware above Point Pleasant, is a great-grandson of Edward Marshall, and is the possessor of the old rifle which he owned and probably the one with which he shot a "thousand deer or more and Indians unnumbered," for after the murder of Marshall's first wife by the Indians, he and they were sworn enemies, and if history is correct his aim was seldom at fault. Many traditions of his encounters and methods have come down through the years, one of which especially interesting is that he used a noiseless powder, which gave him great advantage over his swarthy enemies.

Without being particularly associated with the subject of this paper there is an old land mark worthy of notice on the river road where Smithtown used to stand. It is the remains of an old foundry and factory where Joseph Smith made the first cast iron mould board that Pennsylvania produced. He is also said to have introduced in these shops the first hard coal used for blacksmithing purposes in Bucks county. Smithtown was not long lived, nor very successful but the introduction of the Smith plow was an important event and it was probably the best plow used in the first half of the century. The business was continued by Mahlon Smith for a long time. The plow had a long mould board and was thought to be too heavy to handle, but did its work well; it finally gave way to the Miles, Wiggins and Deats plows, which were lighter in weight, but since the introduction of those of heavy steel with castings much the shape of those manufactured at Smithtown, farmers have learned that heavy weight does not always mean heavy draught. The thought occurred

while riding past the site of the old town, whether it would not be well for the Historical Society of Bucks County to place a tablet on the rocks above these crumbling ruins to mark the spot where a new and great industry was projected in our county by energetic citizens thereof. Would it not be well more often to memorize the triumphs of our people who have been leaders in the peaceful revolutions of the past, whether they be in the line of mental, moral, mechanical or scientific achievement.

In a parting glance from the old burying ground we could not fail to be impressed with the beauty of the landscape which had captivated the maiden of a century and a half ago; to the east lie the hills which wall in the noble Delaware on its seaward course; to the South the spire of the old Tincum Church rises above the neighboring roofs; and far to the westward are cultivated farms and comfortable homes, while at one's feet is the Tincum creek with its rugged banks and its

"Old road winding, as old roads will,  
Here to a ferry and there to a mill."

Following it on our homeward drive we soon reach the Tohickon hills, which were haunted in the early times by the presence of the outlaw Doans, but which have in modern years nothing but pleasant memories of picnic days spent on their rocky summits. A little later we came in view of that beautiful panorama of river and bridge and hamlet and hill which meets the gaze from the Point Pleasant heights.

Having thus enjoyed and appreciated this Tincum drive we could not wonder that even the staid proprietors desired to make a good bargain for the "Manor of the Highlands," although the conscience can hardly be convinced that even these ends could justify the means said to have been brought to bear in their acquisition. Nor can we wonder that the aboriginal owners looked on with dismay at the phenomenal walk of Marshall, which must have seemed to them like the gait of Hiawatha, when

"At each stride a mile he measured."

And perhaps we should not blame them if they felt that they had "sold their birthright for a mess of pottage."

## LOCAL HISTORY.

### The Hughes Family of Bedminster.

Their Ancestor Came to America From the North of Ireland to Secure Religious Freedom and Better His Material Condition in the Early Part of the Last Century.

The ancestor of the Bedminster family of that name is supposed to have come from the north of Ireland, and to have been of Scottish nationality. He was James Hughes. He was one of many



thousands of his countrymen who came to America during the first half of the last century to better their material condition and to obtain religious freedom. During the time of Cromwell, on account of the rebellious spirit of the native Irish, who were Catholics, much of their land in the northern part of Ireland was confiscated by the English Government. As a measure of security and policy their estates were granted to the neighboring Scotch, who were zealous Protestants. The latter were more orderly and in disposition more in accordance with the spirit and aims of the ruling power in the sister isle. They were all staunch Presbyterians, imbued with the tone of the Covenanters, and naturally formed an intelligent and industrious class of immigrants, of strong religious bias and enterprising character. In the course of a generation or more these Scottish people in turn began to suffer from persecution at the hands of the English Government, which curtailed their privileges and sought to reduce them to Episcopacy. This created much dissatisfaction and was one of the causes of the large emigration of the Scotch-Irish to America afterwards. The early pioneers of Bedminster and Tinicum were largely of this stock and where they at one time owned the greater portion of the land and formed the bulk of the people. They came in considerable numbers between 1725 and 1740, and upon the banks of Deep Run a Presbyterian church was founded as early as 1732.

#### JAMES HUGHES

was the progenitor of the family in America and settled in Bedminster between 1725 and 1735. He occupied land perhaps a mile eastward of Deep Run church, which belonged to William Allen, a large owner of lands, which he had obtained by patent from the Proprietary government. Upon this farm he resided for many years without being the owner, or at least without having a title deed for the property. This was the case with many other settlers upon Allen's lands. We find a deed of the date of May 5th, 1762, wherein William Allen granted him ninety-eight acres, of which he was already an occupier, and for which he paid 78£ and ten shillings.

This deed, which was not recorded for many years afterwards, goes on to say that the property was bounded by other lands of Allen, by those of Abraham Black, Owen Hockman, William Moyer, John Boers and David Kolb. This was part of 6653 acres, which had been surveyed for William Allen March 5, 1730, and part of 10,000 acres which William Penn, by his last will, devised to Springett Penn. The latter granted to his youngest brother, William Penn, Jr., in 1729, who in turn conveyed to Allen in 1730.

James Hughes made his last will October 10, 1779, and died the following December. The name of his wife was Rebecca. Two sons, then living, are mentioned, James and Joshua, and a grandson, James Hughes. To these three he devised his plantation. Another son, Christopher, had but recently died, two years previous to his father. There were four married daughters, Abigail Thomas,

Elizabeth Mathews, Martha Burk and Annie Oliphant. To his grandsons, Alexander and Thomas, sons of Christopher Hughes, were devised some land lying beyond the Blue Mountains. The larger portion of his personal effects were ordered sold; the proceeds were to go for the benefit of Deep Run church, of which he declares both he and his children were members. The great-grandson, James, was the son of Alexander, the son of Christopher. He was not yet of age. This fact will indicate that James Hughes, the pioneer, had attained to quite an old age at the time of his death.

The original Hughes dwelling, where the family lived, and which was built by the first James Hughes, stood upon a meadow bank, on the easterly side of the Deep Run, near Hockman's saw mill, and half a mile south of the point where the westerly branch of the creek joins the main stream. It was a stone house, fronting the southward, partly surrounded by woodland. This was as the writer saw it a few years ago, having a dating stone with the year 1747 inscribed upon it. This indicates its erection by Hughes fifteen years previous to receiving the deed for the land from William Allen.

#### CHRISTOPHER HUGHES

was the son of James Hughes, born in 1724. The first name of his wife was Jane. The writer has no knowledge of his life and career. He died whilst yet in his prime, in the summer of 1777. His will was made on July 3d of that year, and recorded August 17, 1779. A tombstone in Deep Run graveyard tells of his death on the 16th of September, 1777. In his will mention is made of two sons and five daughters: James, Alexander, Jane, Susannah, Agnes, Elizabeth, and one whose name is not given, but who was the wife of William Wilson. Of these, Jane became the wife of Griffith Owen, of Hilltown; Susannah married William McHenry, and left descendants, among whom was the late Charles McHenry, of Doylestown; Elizabeth married Samuel Wigton. Tradition tells us that these daughters were beautiful and attractive, and that the family generally were thrifty, intelligent and prosperous. Jane, the mother of this family, survived her husband twenty-two years, or till November 25, 1793, aged 74, having been born in 1725. The son, Alexander, did not live to reach old age as his death occurred May 22, 1793, at the age of 49. His widow Margaret survived till September 17, 1817, at the age of sixty-four.

Alexander Hughes was for many years a justice of the peace in Bedminster. By his will it appears that his children were James, Mary, Elizabeth, Samuel, Alexander, Rebecca and Thomas. His brothers-in-law, Samuel Wigton and Griffith Owen, were his executors.

The posterity of Jane Hughes, who married Griffith Owen, has been traced in a recent article by the writer. That of Elizabeth Hughes, who married Samuel Wigton, was traced in detail a few years ago by the writer in an article, published in the INTELLIGENCER. This was supplemental to a communication from one of their descendants living in West Chester, Frank Wigton Brown. Samuel Wigton lived in New Britain on a farm of 106 acres, lying on Iron Hill, a mile east of New Galena, and which he



had inherited from his father, John Wigton, who purchased 212 acres of John Kirkbride in 1741. He had sons, Christopher and Samuel, who lived to grow up, and six daughters. These were Jane, wife of Daniel Morgan; Isabel, wife of John Kennedy; Mary, wife of Morris Eder; Anne, wife of John S. Brown; Margaret, wife of Thomas M. Logan; and Elizabeth, unmarried. Of these, Logan was a successful leather merchant of Philadelphia; Brown lived in Alexandria, Virginia, and Eder removed to Maryland, and from thence to Ohio.

§ The above sketch is only a fragment of what might be told of the Hughes family and their descendants. The writer merely gives that small amount of information, which has come to his knowledge, hoping that it may incite other writers or some later members of the family to supplement it by a more complete account. E. M.

## DANIEL BOONE.

### The Noted Hunter and Explorer a Bucks Countian.

A Paper Read Before the Bucks County Historical Society, at a Meeting Held in Doylestown, January 21, 1896, by Rev. D. K. Turner, of Hartsville.

Perhaps no native of Bucks county has been more celebrated than Daniel Boone. In his day and for a long period afterwards his fame was widely spread through our country. As a pioneer, hunter, explorer of regions untrodden by white men, and forerunner of civilization, he was surpassed by none, who more than a hundred years ago made their way to the pathless regions of the West. He was born in February, 1735, of English parentage, his grandfather, George Boone, having emigrated from Exeter, England, in 1717, with his wife and a large family of children. Daniel's father, Squire Boone, (Squire being a Christian name and not a title) in 1728 bought 140 acres of land in New Britain township of Thomas Shute, of Philadelphia, on which property it is probable that the noted son came into life seven years later.

When he was about ten or twelve years old the family removed to Berks county, and located near Reading. That part of the country was then sparsely settled, large tracts were covered with unbroken forests, game was abundant, and in his boyhood he formed and strengthened the taste for hunting, which subsequently characterized him. After remaining there six or seven years his father, encouraged no doubt by Daniel, went to the still more primitive region of central North Carolina, and bought a property not far from the Yadkin river. Here was a field for the young man to cultivate his love of nature, to see her in

her wildest aspect, and to roam over mountain, hill and valley, rifle in hand. While in this locality he married Rebecca Bryan, and pursued the occupation of a farmer several years; but in 1761 becoming restless, he joined a band of congenial spirits, crossed the Blue Ridge, and explored the head waters of the Tennessee river. A similar expedition followed three years later, along the sources of the Cumberland.

These tours increased the desire, which had been awakened in his mind, to throw off the restraints of artificial civilization and find a home, where the luxurious usages of refined society would no longer incommode him, and where inequalities of wealth and station would be little regarded. In 1767 a man, who had been far into the western wilderness, returned and depicted in glowing colors the beauty of the region known as Kentucky, its grand forests, undisturbed hunting grounds and fertile soil.

Boone at once formed a resolution to visit it, and if the accounts were true, to cast his lot there. Two years elapsed, however, before he could so arrange his affairs as to make protracted absence from home possible. In 1769 a party of six hardy frontiersmen was formed, who placed themselves under his leadership and set out on the first of May for the almost unknown territory south of the Ohio. Their journey was toilsome and dangerous. The Indians, though nominally subject to Great Britain, were hostile to white men, jealous of their encroachments and disposed to take their lives or force them back east of the mountains. The travelers moved along their lonely way, under the leafy arch above them, with little food but that which their rifles provided, five weeks. On the 7th of June they reached an elevated spot, from which they beheld a wide prospect of the valley of the Kentucky river and its tributaries. There they determined to erect cabins, and from this as a central point hunt the buffalo and make extensive explorations. Several months passed away in these agreeable employments.

When winter came, having seen no Indians, though continually on the watch for them, they separated into three parties, Boone and a single companion, whose name was Stewart, remaining together. On the 22d of December these two men were surprised by the savages, robbed of all the valuables they had and held prisoners a week, when they contrived to elude the vigilance of their captors and escape by night.

In January, Daniel's brother, Squire Boone, and another hunter from North Carolina, arrived, bringing tidings of their families and welcome additions to their diminishing supplies of powder and lead. It was not long before they were again attacked by Indians. Stewart was shot and scalped, the man who came with Squire was lost in the woods and the two brothers were left alone in the boundless forest. In the spring Squire went home for supplies, and Daniel continued with no companion, without bread, salt or sugar, taking care of and adding to their furs, until the middle of summer, when the solitary exile was cheered by his brother's return. During the following autumn and winter they explored other parts of Kentucky and found it most attractive and desirable for



a permanent abode.

In March, 1771, they packed their horses with valuable peltry and retraced their steps eastward, across the Alleghenies to the Yadkin. Daniel had been away from his family two years, in which he had seen no human being but his few companions and hostile savages. In spite of the dangers crafty and treacherous foes presented, he determined to emigrate to the new country as soon as he could sell his farm and properly arrange his business. This was accomplished in about two years, and in the fall of 1773 he and his brother, with their families, turned their faces toward the setting sun. On the way they were joined by five families and forty armed men, and thus strengthened they moved forward cautiously but with new courage. They had reached a valley near the southeast corner of Virginia, when they were suddenly attacked by Indians. Six of the party were killed, among whom was James Boone, Daniel's son, and they were compelled to retreat forty miles to the Clinch river.

Deeming it unsafe to penetrate further into the haunts of the aborigines that season, they remained in that locality till June, 1774. Boone was then requested by Governor Dunmore to go to Kentucky and conduct on their route home a party of government surveyors. This enterprise was successfully carried through, in which he was occupied two months and traveled on foot 800 miles. His reputation for shrewdness, caution, and daring in border warfare was now fully established, and he was chosen to command, with the rank of captain, three separate garrisons of soldiers in outposts for the defence of the frontier against the Shawnees and other allied tribes. He fought and defeated those marauding and merciless foes in several battles and drove them to their wigwams north of the Ohio. In 1775 he was engaged by the Transylvania Company to open a road between the Holston and Kentucky rivers. The danger of meeting stealthy and enraged savages was imminent at every step, but the work was energetically pushed forward and completed, and in April a fort and incipient town were built on the Kentucky and named Boonesborough. Harrodsburg was founded soon after, and the permanent occupation of the territory by civilized man was begun. In a few months he removed his family to the new settlements, and his wife and daughters were the first white females ever seen on the banks of the Kentucky. About a year after their arrival one of his daughters and two of her companions one afternoon went rowing on the river. They amused themselves for some time dashing the water with their paddles, and failed to observe that they were being drifted by the current toward the shore opposite their home. But sharp eyes were watching them from the bushes, and as they floated nearer, five Indians seized the canoe, drew it out of view of the fort, and carried off its light hearted occupants prisoners. Their cries for help aroused the garrison, but Boone and Callaway, the fathers of two of the girls, were absent, and nothing decisive could be done for their rescue that night. On the return of the men late in the evening preparations were made to pursue their captors next morning, and

we may imagine, that little sleep was taken by their anxious parents, as the hours of darkness slowly rolled away. Ere the sun was up a party of armed men was on the trail of the savages, and followed it with so much rapidity, that they overtook them somewhat after midday, as they were about to cook a meal. So sudden was the attack, that the wily foe were surprised and overpowered, before they had time to kill their prisoners, as was their custom in similar circumstances.

Boone was a skillful military commander as well as a successful hunter. During the whole of the Revolutionary War the British incited the Indians to acts of murder and rapine along the border, and he was employed with his command much of the time, especially in 1777, in defending the settlers. Intercourse with the eastern part of the country was infrequent and attended with great difficulty. Many of the comforts and all of the luxuries of life were extremely scarce. Even salt was not to be had for weeks or months. There were salt springs at a place called the "Blue Licks," where deer, elk and buffalo were wont to resort to obtain it, and it might be made there by the slow process of boiling, but at the peril of nocturnal incursions of sneaking redskins. To secure this almost indispensable article Boone formed and commanded a party in the dead of winter 1778, who proceeded to the saline springs and had been there a month when, being a little distance from camp, he was surrounded and captured by a hundred Indians. Thoroughly acquainted with Indian customs, in a short time he won their regard to such an extent as to gain favorable terms for his party, whose lives were to be spared and they were to be treated as prisoners of war. He was taken to Detroit, then under British control, and was honorably received by the commander of the district, but strictly watched. Sharp as the savages, he resolved to escape, and with this in view asked to be adopted into the tribe, suffered his hair to be pulled out, except the lock on top of his head, and was painted like a brave. He was allowed at certain times to hunt, and often returned to his "durance vile," making no attempt to leave. But after being with the dusky warriors five months he went one day with his rifle into the woods, and when out of sight started for his home, 160 miles distant. As the poet says,

"Man nor brute,  
Not dint of hoof, nor print of foot,  
Lay in the wild luxuriant soil;  
No sign of travel, none of toil;  
The very air was mute."

With no guide but the sun and stars, he still had little fear of losing his way, and was anxiously about crossing the Ohio, as he was not an adept at swimming. When he came to the river, after some searching, he found an old canoe, in which he got safely over, and reached Boonesborough in five days from the time he set out. All his friends supposed he had perished, and his wife and children, under that idea, had returned to North Carolina. He warned the garrison that they would soon be attacked, and the fort was immediately put into the best possible state of defence. Not



without reason, for in a few weeks nearly 500 Indians under British officers appeared and began a siege. Ere long they called upon the intrepid hero to surrender. He refused and bid them do their worst. A furious attempt was made to storm the fort, but it was repulsed with bravery and success, though the defenders numbered less than a sixth part of the assailants, and the enemy, after a loss of nearly forty killed and many more wounded became disheartened, and fled off to the north. For his eminent services in the late military operations Boone was promoted to be major. About this time he went to North Carolina to join his family, from whom he had been separated almost a year.

In 1779 he sold his property and invested the proceeds in Continental money, then passing at a heavy discount, intending to convert it into land warrants, and to locate them in Kentucky. Others with a similar purpose intrusted to him large sums, having perfect confidence in his integrity. Nor did he betray his trust, but on his way to Richmond, where the sessions of commissioners to adjudicate western land titles were held, he was robbed of the whole, amounting to about \$20,000. If this unfortunate reverse had not occurred, he would have become a large proprietor of real estate in one of the most fertile parts of the Union.

He returned with his family to Boonesborough in 1780. During that summer, while hunting with one of his brothers, the latter was killed and scalped by Indians, and he himself came near meeting the same fate. A body of militia formed to chastise the prowling foe advanced into their neighborhood, and in spite of his earnest remonstrances were enticed into an ambuscade and attacked. In the engagement he lost a son, and another brother was wounded. About that time he was raised to the rank of Colonel.

For ten years after the close of the Revolutionary struggle he was occupied in agriculture and occasional hunting. In 1792, when Kentucky was admitted into the Union, and the legality of claims to real estate was investigated, his titles were declared invalid and he was reduced to penury. He was now about sixty years old, and had spent the best part of his life in exploring that magnificent inheritance and repelling the incursions of barbarous tribes, yet he was destitute of an acre he could call his own. He became embittered against officers and courts, that are often used by the unscrupulous and grasping to defraud the unwary, and determined to place himself where he would be less likely to suffer from a similar cause. His hopes turned towards Missouri and in 1795 he removed to the Osage river fifty miles west of St. Louis. That country then belonged to Spain and was frequently called Upper Louisiana. Col. Boone was everywhere known as an able officer and a shrewd manager of Indian affairs, and in 1800 he was appointed commandant of the Osage District, and as a compensation for his services in that capacity he was allotted 8500 acres of rich land near the Missouri river. But it was necessary that he should appear before the Spanish Commissioner in New Orleans and have his title ratified by the

highest authority. He put off attending to the matter from day to day, and finally neglected it altogether, and lost a baronial manor which would have enriched himself and his children. When he left Kentucky he was not only poor, but in debt, and though several hundred miles from his former home, he had no disposition to avoid paying his creditors. Farming, then as now, brought little money. The only source from which he could secure cash, was furs obtained by hunting, and in this for several years he had meagre success. At length by getting a considerable supply of fine peltry his purse was moderately replenished, and he made a trip to Boonesborough, paid all persons the sums they said he owed them, and made his way back to the Osage with but half a dollar in his pocket. Then he declared he was ready to die content.

In 1812, when he was 77 years old, he had a claim to 850 acres of land, the title to which was defective, and he was in danger of losing it. Missouri was then in the area of the U. S., and a petition was presented to Congress, recommended by the Legislature of Kentucky, and supported by many influential men, that the possession of this tract should be confirmed to him. In view of his valor and courage, and the toilsome and perilous labors he had gone through in defence of the infant settlements of the Mississippi Valley, favorable action was taken and the request was granted, a token that Republics are not always ungrateful. This property he enjoyed ten years until the close of his life, which took place in 1822, in his 88th year. He was laid to rest beside his wife, who died seven years previously, in a coffin, which he had provided for himself, and which he kept under his bed, perhaps with a desire to follow the precept, "Memento Mori." A large number of children, grandchildren and other descendants to the fifth generation followed his remains to the grave.

Francis Parkman in his interesting volume, "The Oregon Trail," says that he was furnished in 1843 with a horse by his "friend Mr. Boone of Westport, a grandson of Daniel Boone, the pioneer." And when the author had advanced in his tour far toward the Rocky Mountains, he states that he overtook a party of emigrants on their way to the Pacific Coast. I quote his language:

"Conspicuous among the rest stood three tall young men, grandsons of Daniel Boone. They had clearly inherited the adventurous character of that prince of pioneers, but I saw no signs of the quiet and tranquil spirit that so remarkably distinguished him. Fearful was the fate that months after overtook some of the members of that party. General Kearny on his return from California brought back their story. They were interrupted by the deep snows, among the mountains and, maddened by cold and hunger, upon each others' flesh."

Whether any or all of these three young men perished in that way, we are not informed.

A portrait of Col. Boone, which now adorns the walls of the State House, in Frankfort, Kentucky, was painted by Chester Harding, an eminent American artist, about two years before the veteran's death. It was long deemed appro-



prate by the citizens of Kentucky that a monument should be erected to his memory in the Capital of the State, of which he was one of the principal founders, and in 1845 this was accomplished, and the bodies of himself and his wife were removed from Missouri and deposited in the cemetery of that city with imposing ceremonies.

Col. Boone was a noble man, of whom the country that gave him birth may well be proud. Many cities contended for the honor of the nativity of Homer, and we may be congratulated that one so brave, energetic, persistent and patriotic commenced his career among us. His education was limited, but he possessed a strong mind and commanded a powerful influence wherever he went.

The minute forms of a highly developed social and legal system were repugnant to him, yet he had few if any superiors in the virtues that adorn the head of a family or constitute a worthy citizen. As a husband and father he was beyond reproach. Subtle and cunning in warfare with savages, he was too unsuspecting and guileless in his dealings with civilized men. Perfectly honest, he wronged no man but often suffered himself to be wronged. To no one are the exploration and settlement of our country west of the Alleghenies and south of the Ohio more indebted than to the hero, Daniel Boone.

From, *Times*  
*New York*  
Date, *3/8/96*

**BAYARD TAYLOR'S TALE REPRODUCED**

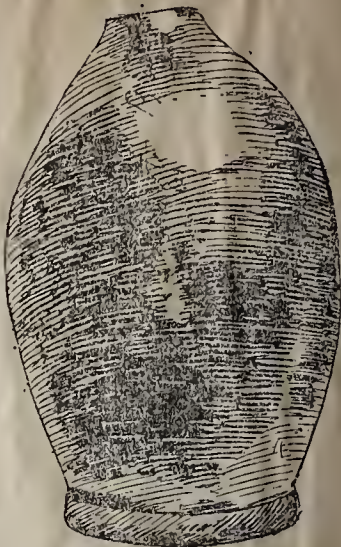
**Open Air Play in the Same Country in  
Celebration of the Hundredth An-  
niversary of the Original Hunt.**

OXFORD, Penn, March 7.—The chase as pictured by Bayard Taylor in his "Story of Kennett" was presented as an open-air play north of Oxford to-day by the Kennett Square Hunt and invited mounts from various hunts. It was the centennial celebration of the original chase which started at 1:30 P. M. from the old Barton farmhouse, just across the creek to the eastward, leaving Kennett Square by the Philadelphia stage road. The various characters mentioned in the tale were reproduced at the chase, and its presentation was as near like the original as possible.

The meet to-day was held in the presence of 4,000 spectators. It was acted on the

old Barton farm, east of Kennett Square. Forty hunts were represented in the chase, hailing from Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and New-Jersey. Three hundred riders and two hundred hounds followed the fox.

The hunt dinner, in celebration of that held in old Unicorn Tavern a century ago,



**Jug Found at a Fox Hunt 100 Years Ago.**

was spread in the Town Hall. 500 covers being laid.

The characters in the story were impersonated as follows:

- |                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Gilbert Potter.....   | Robert E. Dallas        |
| Betsy Lavender.....   | Mrs. C. C. Waldo        |
| Alfred Barton.....    | Theodore Pennock        |
| Sandy Flash.....      | Lewis Agnew             |
| Giles.....            | Joseph Hughes           |
| Joe Fairthorn.....    | Master Theodore Pennock |
| Jake Fairthorn.....   | Samuel Pennock, Jr.     |
| Joel Ferris.....      | John Montgomery         |
| Mark Dean.....        | C. S. Swayne            |
| Martha Dean.....      | Miss Mary Wilkinson     |
| Sallie Fairthorn..... | Mrs. Minford Lewis      |
| Bob Smith.....        | F. Maxwell, Jr.         |

The victors carried out the story on the same stage as that of a century ago, rendering the details to the delight of the great audience.

The fox, a large, red male, known as the McIntyre fox, was dug out in Delaware ten days ago. He was the veteran of many a minor chase. He wore to-day a red, white, and blue collar, with a silver plate engraved as follows:

ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY HUNT.  
March 7, 1896.  
MEMORY OF BAYARD TAYLOR.  
Liberated by the Kennett Hunt.

The fox was turned over to John Montgomery, the veteran rider of seventy years of Kennett, who dropped it in the east meadow at 2 o'clock. The sly fellow kept himself in view of the crowd for some time but then disappeared down the valley of Ridley Creek toward Dealware. In twenty five minutes the dogs were loosed.

Among the veterans in the saddle wer



Sam Forbes of Delaware, seventy-four years; Bris Sklies of Pennsylvania, seventy-eight years, and Jess Hickman, Register of Wills, this county, sixty years. The youngest rider was John Scott of Valley, ten years.

The fox was holed after a half-hour run, on Evan Piles's farm, three miles south of Kennett. It was not dug out. Will Keating of Kennett was the first rider at the hole. The place holed is near the farm owned a century ago by Gilbert Potter, the hero of Taylor's story.

The celebration was a great success, and the hunt was the largest ever held in Pennsylvania.

The "Story of Kennett," a tale of Amer-

ica, say the true names or nearly all of the characters are known. Barton farm in 1796 was occupied by a family named Williams. It was here that "old man Barton"—by name Abiah and father of Alfred—resided. He was over fourscore years, and for many a twelvemonth he had been a paralytic and unable to walk. But neither age nor infirmity dulled his love of gold. The original house of hornblende rock is no longer standing; a modern farm mansion surrounded by trees has succeeded it. The property is owned by T. V. Wingard and occupied by Joseph Hughes, a member of the Kennett Hunt. The house is on the knoll which slopes down to the meadow across which the fox ran after leaving the hands of Giles, the military straggler from Howe's army after the Brandywine battle.



**Bayard Taylor Masonic Library Building.**

In Course of Erection at Kennett Square.

ican life. is one of Taylor's most widely-read works. The scene is laid in a settlement which a century ago was peopled by followers of Penn, and their descendants in some instances to-day possess the ancestral acres. Taylor's parents were Quakers. Reared in the spirit of gentleness and "meetings," he naturally caught the true sense from his elders, whose store of local tales was a delight, and enabled him to weave a story that has made the village and neighboring landmarks known.

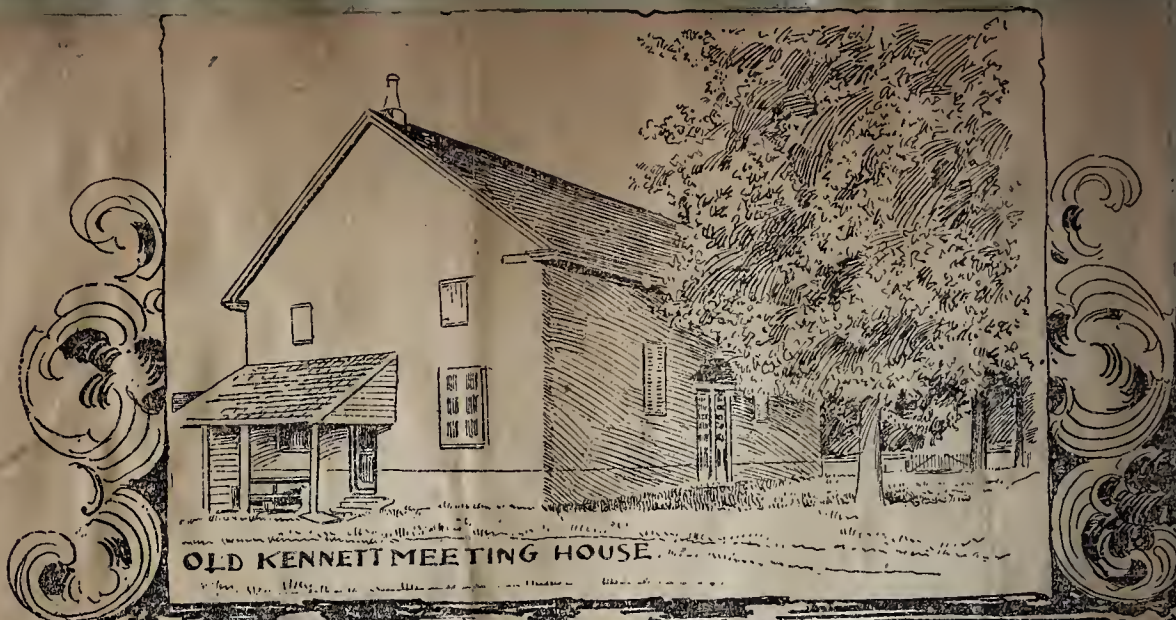
To the east of Kennett—its seat is a commanding crown in the midst of tillable land responsive at harvest—the well-watered country stretches away until it reaches the Brandywine. West of the town opens the lovely valley of Toughkenamon, (the name is Indian, signifying Fire Brand Hill,) through which runs the State Road, ending somewhere about the headwaters of Chesapeake Bay. The country is rich and is a perfect picture of prosperous farm life. The Quaker homes in this community are havens of peace. It is such neighborhoods that produce pictures of domestic life.

In selecting actors for his tale of truth and fiction Taylor disguised them under fictitious names. The older residents who read the story soon after its appearance easily recognized their neighbors, and to-

The Avondale woods were the scene of the exciting hunt.

The Gilbert Potter farm is about two miles south of Kennett, and is the property of Jacob Hanna. The house bears a slab with the initials L. E. M. and the date 1727. To the north of Kennett is the Fairthorn farm, now owned by Willis Taylor, a cousin of Bayard Taylor. It is said that the present house rests upon the foundation walls of the home which sheltered years since Sally Fairthorn and her mischievous brothers, Joe and Jake Fairthorn. This property adjoins the Cedarcroft estate, once the home of the poet, but now owned by Mrs. Barrington, formerly of New-York. "Deb Smith's" real name was Rachel McMullen. She was a spinner, and worked from farm to farm. Part of her outfit was a short black pipe, in which, apparently, she took much comfort. Her home was a log hut in the forest, where she lived alone. In Summer she worked in fields. The Friends' meeting house at old Kennett is standing. Here it was that Gilbert Potter and his mother attended meeting the first day succeeding the chase. After meeting the neighbors assembled under the poplar trees, and said, "How does thee do?" Among the hands Gilbert shook was Martha Deane's, daughter of Dr. Deane, who married out of meeting, and afterward expressed sorrow for his offense, thus restoring himself to membership in the society. It was in this meeting that Gilbert and





OLD KENNETT MEETING HOUSE



HOME OF GILBERT POTTER

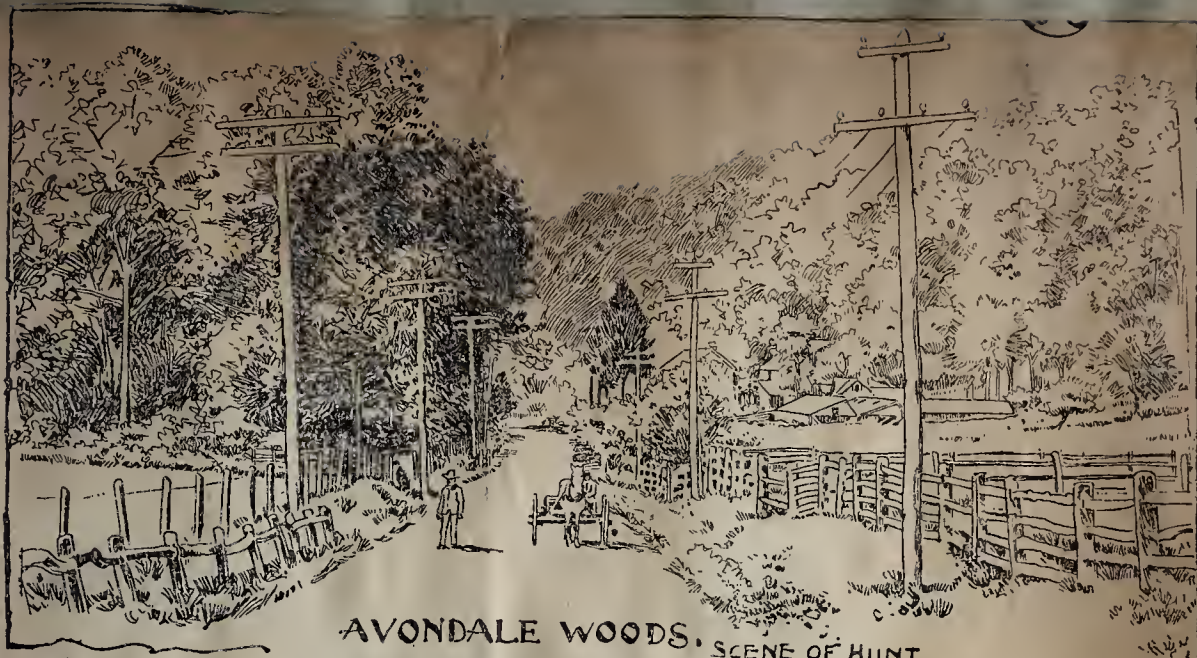
WHERE SANDY FLASH SHOT AT DEB. SMITH.

Martha were married according to the Friends' ceremony.

The most important personages at the chase from the old Boston farm were Alfred Barton, Gilbert Potter, Fortune, alias "Sandy Flash," and Miss Betsy Lavender. On the day of the hunt she put on her broad, gray beaver hat and brown stuff cloak, and, issuing from Dr. Deane's door in the village, took the way to Barton's. She crossed the creek on a flat log secured with stakes at either end, and in a few moments she stood beside the corn crib in which was the fox, the centre of attraction.

The dogs crowded around, and it was Alfred Barton who kicked them aside and allowed Miss Betsy to get off her perch and slip into the house to assist Miss Ann. Up the meadow rode Gilbert Potter on a "plow horse," the object of derision by Joel Ferris, a young Pennsbury buck, who had recently received a legacy of £4,000 and no longer was mounted like a countryman. The next arrival was a stranger who called himself "Fortune." He took the black bottle from Mr. Ferris's hand and drank long and deep. Then the start. In a few moments an old dog gave tongue like a trumpet and the pack followed. Barton and Fortune rode





AVONDALE WOODS. SCENE OF HUNT.



CREEK ROAD.

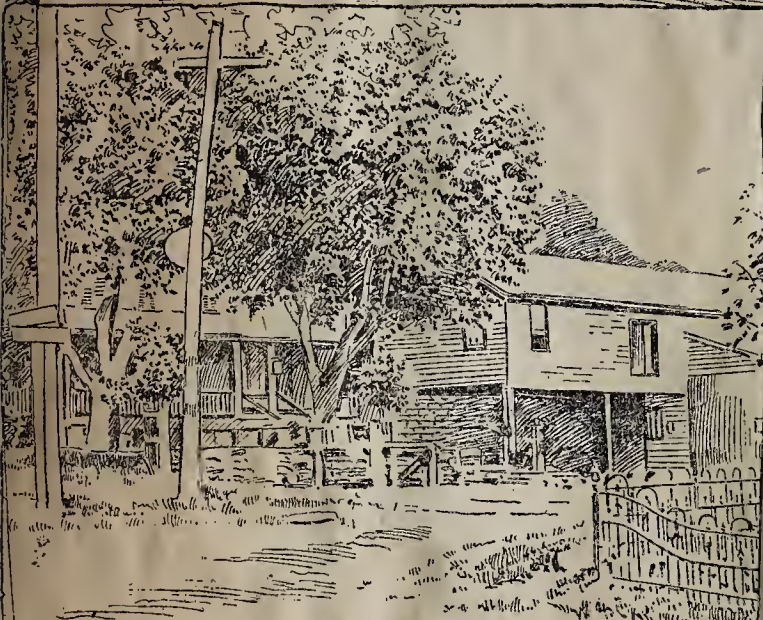
together that day. Potter separated and was rewarded by securing the brush from the devouring hounds near the Hammer-and-Trowel Tavern. The crowd returned to the inn and drank at the expense of Fortune. Potter returned by the old State Road and overtook Martha Deane and Dolly Fairthorn. On the way he gave the brush to Martha. It was on the Creek road that he is said to have proposed to her.

Fortune and Barton, more or less drunk, started homeward by the New-Ga Road. In a dense wood Fortune stopped and soon had relieved Barton of his vest and bunch of jingling seals and a pair of moleskin, which contained several pounds. Barton's teeth chattered when Fortune revealed himself as Sandy Flash. The wayman turned toward Rising Sun, on and whistling "Money Musk." Barton's restive horse was spurred and dashed the Hammer-and-Trowel, by the U.





OLD ANVIL TAVERN



HAMMER AND TROWEL TAVERN



Sketch made of old Barton Farm by Bayard Taylor, when a boy, and framed with a pane of glass out of the old house. Taylor presented it to his teacher, Ruth Ann Chambers. The house was erected in 1716. The sketch is signed J. B. Taylor.

father, an Irishman, bound him to John Passmore of Doe Run at the outbreak of the Revolution. Fitz joined the Flying Camp, and went with it to New-York. He deserted, swam the Hudson, returned to Chester County, was arrested as a deserter, and thrown into Walnut Street Prison, Philadelphia. On promising to return to the ranks, recruits being much needed, Fitz was released, and again entered the Continental Army. He deserted again, and reappeared in this county. One Summer while mowing in the field of his former master, John Passmore, he was arrested by two soldiers sent out from Wilmington.

They appeared so suddenly that Fitz could offer no resistance, as they were armed. His mother lived in one of Passmore's tenanted houses, to which the deserter begged to be taken, that he might get his clothing. Once in the house he seized his rifle and turned



on his captors, and by wild threats compelled them to leave.

From that day a change took place in Fitz's heart. He turned Tory, resolved to have revenge on Whigs for arresting him for desertion, and when Gen. Howe landed at the Head of Elk Fitz joined him. He was with the British at the battle of Brandywine, and accompanied the army to Philadelphia. His knowledge of this part of the country made him valuable to Howe. Assisted by Mordecai Dougherty, he plundered Whigs, sometimes carrying them within the British lines. Fitz remained in Chester County when the army left Phila-

delphia, and carried on highway robbing extensively. His retreats were Hand's Pass, North Valley Hill, and caves along the Brandywine. He considered the collectors of public moneys lawful prey, plundered them, and sometimes thrashed them terribly. His acts were confined to Whigs, Tories were never molested. He was frequently chased, but escaped his pursuers, and often disarmed and robbed those who were following him. It is said that Fitz never wronged the weak and helpless. Frequently he gave to the poor what he took from the rich. This is illustrated by his falling in with an old woman who traded and was on her way to Philadelphia with a little money to buy goods. She was not acquainted with the person of the robber, and confided to him her errand. He in-

formed her that he was the man she feared, and reaching her some gold, wished her a pleasant journey and left.

Col. Andrew Boyd, Lieutenant of the County of Chester, kept the Council at Philadelphia informed of the bold robber's deeds. The Executive Council offered a reward of \$1,000 for his capture. Toward the latter part of August Fitz was plundering Whigs wholesale, levying contributions of \$150. He appeared at the home of William McAfee and ordered the family up stairs while he proceeded to rob the house. He had taken from McAfee a pair of shoes, and laying his sword and pistol on the bed in a room where the family were, raised his foot to put on a shoe. Rachel Walker signaled her master to seize the robber, which



Old Barton Farm in 1896.

he did. The woman seized the pistols—one of which Fitz had kept in his hand—and secured them after a struggle. McAfee was strong and threw the robber, at which point in the affair the man servant appeared with ropes and bound him securely. The servant was sent to notify the authorities of Fitz's capture. That night a gun was fired at a window, it is supposed by his partner, Dougherty. A guard from the American camp arrived next morning and took Fitz to jail at Chester. He was convicted of burglary and robbery, and sentenced to be hanged the latter part of September. His efforts to escape were twice almost successful, the last time he was removed to Philadelphia for safe keeping.



Across the Creek to Barton Farm,  
Traveled by Betsey Lavender.



the day before his execution he was taken back to Chester and there hanged.

The reward of \$1,000 for his arrest caused a dispute between Rachel Walker and Capt. McAfee, she claiming all on the ground that the seizure of Fitz was made at her suggestion. The Council divided the reward equally between them. About a fortnight after Fitz's execution McAfee's oats and haystacks were burned and his horses maimed. His return of property destroyed by British during the Revolutionary War contains an item of loss amounting to £200.

Anvil, Unicorn, and Hammer-and-Trowel—the taverns mentioned in the story—are standing, except Unicorn. Anvil is east of Kennett on the State road, over two miles away, and belongs to the estate of the late Benjamin Saller. Unicorn stood in Kennett where four roads meet, and where the riders of the chase dismounted and drunk stout glasses of old rye. One of the earliest bonifaces of the inn was John Baldwin. Its site is now occupied by Unicorn block, erected by the late T. E. Sickles in 1877. A stone from the old tavern is below the marble date stone in the front of the block and bears this inscription:

H. & B.  
A. M.  
1764.

Hammer-and-Trowel Tavern is in Toughkenamon, about a mile west of Kennett. It is owned by Morris Shields, and is now a public house.

The Chase dinner held in Unicorn Tavern was celebrated in the Town Hall to-day. The proceeds will assist in the erection of the Bayard Taylor Memorial Library Building now being erected in Kennett. Kennett Hunt's members include Theodore Pennock, John M. Chalfant, B. F. Yerkes, Dr. Harry Entrikin, R. E. Dallas, H. M. Yerkes, and others.

From, *Lucie*  
*New York*  
Date, *June 14 "1896*

# A RED ROSE IN PAYMENT

## THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL IN BARON STIEGEL'S MEMORY.

The History Interwoven with the Early Days of Zion Lutheran Church—Stiegel's Business Activity and Lavish Expenditure—How His Employes Received Him—An Ordinance Foundry During the Revolutionary War.

OXFORD, Penn., June 13.—The "Feast of Roses," one of the famous events in Southeastern Pennsylvania, will be celebrated tomorrow. This festival was established by Baron Henry William Stiegel, who founded the beautiful town of Manheim, in Lancaster County, over a century ago. It became a noted institution, and is the Lutheran Church, which was also founded by the Baron. The history of this noted in his day for his progressive business ideas, his acts of philanthropy, his reverence of the Creator of man, and his hospitality, reads not unlike that of a Prince in olden days. He was at one time the wealthiest resident in this State, except the Peabody, but, notwithstanding this, he rests in an unmarked grave in the old Heidelberg graveyard, not far from Robesonia, north of Manheim.

Baron Stiegel was descended from a noble family, and was born near Mannheim, Germany, many, about the year 1733. He was



First Lutheran Church on Lot Donated by Baron Stiegel. At Manheim, Penn., Built 1770.

eccentric and frequently quarreled with the inmates of his home. The idea of coming to America was carried out, and he said he brought about £40,000 with him, arriving about the year 1750. It is said that the first two years here were spent in selecting a place to erect a residence. He finally settled in Philadelphia, and in 1751 was married to a lady of that city, whose family name cannot be ascertained, but it is said her first name was Elizabeth. The home was elegant and several servants were employed about the mansion. The first child, Barbara, was born Nov. 5, 1751. Hoping to increase his fortune, Baron Stiegel in 1757 purchased the old Hubert furnace property and became one of the pioneer ironmasters of this country. The furnace, one of the oldest in America, was erected by John Huber, who had the following inscribed on it:



Johann Huber, der este Deutsche mann,  
Der das eisenwerk faluren kann.

Its site was on Furnace Run, Lancaster County, and the Baron tore it down, erected a new one near by and named it Elizabeth in honor of his wife. Not contented with the manufacture of the ordinary iron of those days, the owner began to cast jamb stoves, and was the only man in the country who could do such work. The first of the stoves carried these words:

Baron Stiegel ist der mann  
Der die open giesen kann:

The stoves had neither pipe nor oven, and were walled into the jamb of the kitchen fireplace, the back projecting into the adjoining room. Wood was used in the stoves, and, being a novelty in the neighborhood, they attracted considerable attention. The establishment was full of orders, and its prosperity increased the owner's wealth. About seventy-five workmen were employed



**Present Lutheran Church at Manheim, Penn., on Stiegel Site.**  
Erected 1891, Dedicated 1892.

In 1760 in the furnace, and many were engaged in cutting timber off the property, it comprising between 700 and 900 acres.

The Baron continued to reside in Philadelphia, but on his visits to Elizabeth furnace he occupied a mansion on the manor. Among the acquaintances of the Baron in Philadelphia were Alexander and Charles Stedman, merchants. They owned a tract of land in Lancaster County, and in 1762 sold a one-third interest in it, 720 acres, to Stiegel, for £50. He cut the land into lots with streets and founded Manheim, which was modeled after his birthplace. In 1763 he began the erection of a fine residence in the new town, completing it in 1765. The walls were of deep-red bricks, made in England. A large dining room was on the first floor, and an assembly room, with a pulpit, was overhead. In one end of the former was a fireplace, decorated with tiles, while richly ornamented tapestry, representing scenes of the chase, hung on the walls. The Baron's interest in the spiritual welfare of his employes was genuine. He would have them come together in the assembly room and he preached and taught the doctrines of the Lutheran faith, in the German language.

Stiegel was the proprietor of the first successful glass factory in America, erecting an establishment in Manheim about 1767. It was of imported red brick, so large that a four-in-hand could be turned around in it, and the distance to the top of the cupola was about 90 feet. Workmen came from Europe and began manufacturing in 1768. The following year, about thirty-five men were employed in making vases, salt cellars, pitchers, sugar bowls, flasks, tumblers, and other articles. Many were hand painted, and glass of various colors was made. The ware was marketed in Philadelphia, New-York, and Boston.

In 1769 the Stedmans sold their in the tract of 720 acres, comprising, helm, to Isaac Cox, who, in the following year, sold it to Stiegel for £107 and 10 shillings. The ownings of the Baron, at time ranked him next to the Penns, a over 200 men were employed by him. His income was large, and he lived in lordly manner, and did not listen to the entreaties of friends adversely. He often took parties of friends to his estate. His most distinguished guest in 1770 was George Washington, who accompanied the Baron from Philadelphia to Elizabeth furnace. The house in which Washington was entertained is still standing. The old high bed is in the room, and the surroundings are about the same as they were on that day. The building is of stone, and has a front of about sixty feet.

The proprietor wore his baronial crest and coat of arms, and he journeyed from Philadelphia to his iron works and glass factory in great style. His fine coach was drawn by four, and sometimes eight, high-bred horses. Postillions were near at hand, and hounds ran ahead of the horses. The reception accorded the Baron on these visits by his employes and people was lordly. At the first sight of his approach the watchman in the cupola on his mansion at Manheim fired a cannon, which told the inhabitants their master was coming. The citizens and a band of musicians moved to the residence. Into town the Baron swept, and was welcomed with cheers, music, and cannon. The cannon at Manheim was heard at Elizabeth furnace, twelve miles away, and preparations were made to receive him. On leaving Manheim a salute was fired, and the furnace people knew he was on his way.

Near Elizabeth there was a high hill, on which a cannon was placed, and at the first sight of the Baron's carriage a shot was fired. The workmen in the furnace ceased their labors and, taking up their music, prepared to receive their master. From the furnace he would drive to Schaefferstown, where he had erected a large tower, on which was a cannon. The tower was fifty feet square at the base, about seventy-five feet high, and about ten feet square at the top, and was about five miles north of the furnace. It was constructed for the purpose of entertaining therein his more intimate friends, and contained several apartments.

The Baron's great generosity, his extravagance, and his extensive purchases of land in 1772 resulted in his becoming financially embarrassed, and, although he made a determined effort to reduce his obligations, he was that year imprisoned for debt in Philadelphia. It was the old story of de-



**Lutheran Church at Manheim, Penn.,**  
Erected 1853 on lot Deeded by Baron Stiegel.



serting friends, who could have assisted and prevented his disgrace had they so desired. Some of his friends, however, made representations to the General Assembly, and in 1774 succeeded in getting Stiegel out of prison. He sent a notice to many prominent people of the State and city of his intentions, the following being a copy:

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 15, 1774.

Sir: Please to take notice that I have applied to the Honorable House of Assembly for a law to relieve my person from imprisonment. If you have any objection, please to appear on Thursday next at 3 o'clock in the afternoon at the gaol in this city, before the Committee of Grievances. Your humble servant,

HENRY W. STIEGEL.

To John Brubacher.

The unfortunate Baron came out of prison on Christmas Eve. Helpful friends advanced him money, and he opened Elizabeth furnace again. His city residence was sold, as were his teams, glass works, and other expensive property, and he moved into his home at Manheim.

The charge against the Baron that he was false to the colonies was unfounded. The Revolutionary War came on, and Stiegel's furnace received orders for cannon and ball. His factory was unable to turn out the amount of material required, and he informed the Government that if it would assist in constructing a raceway he would furnish twice as much ammunition. After the battle of Trenton, Washington sent Stiegel 200 of the Hessians he had captured, who were put to work on the waterway. The ditch was about two miles long, and at some points twenty feet deep, and at others they went through rock, but finally completed it. The furnace's capacity was doubled and assisted the Government wonderfully. Orders from this source began to slacken in the Fall of 1778, and the creditors of Stiegel called for money. He could not pay all his obligations immediately, but he did, with the aid of friends, pay every cent finally, leaving himself penniless.

At this point in his career his excellent education became his capital. In 1779 he moved with his family to the parsonage at Brickerville, where he made a precarious living by preaching, teaching school, and giving music lessons. Some of his pupils were the children of the men who formerly worked for him. In 1789 he obtained the privilege of occupying his former castle at Schaefferstown, where he resided about a year and then went into Berks County and was a clerk for a time at the Reading furnaces. While there his wife paid a visit to Philadelphia, and died in that city. The Baron was so poor that his wife had to be buried in the city where she died. To the husband this was the hardest shock he ever received, never recovering from its effects. He moved into a small house near Schaefferstown, taught school a short time, and passed away in the Summer of 1783. He was buried beside his daughter Elizabeth, who married William Old. Baron Stiegel had three children, Barbara, Elizabeth, and Jacob. The oldest descendant of the Baron, Mrs. Rebecca C. Boyer of Harrisburg, died recently. She was in her ninetieth year, and was married to Jerome K. Boyer. For a number of years Mrs. Boyer attended the Feast of Roses and received the annual rental—one red rose—as stipulated by her ancestor.

A portion of the Baron's residence in Manheim is standing, a part of one of the business houses of the town. The office he erected and once occupied is intact. The oaken floors of the residence will last for years. The tapestry was taken down some years since, and may be seen in the rooms of the Pennsylvania Historical Society at Philadelphia. Several relics of the Baron's days, and especially pieces of his glassware, are treasured by residents of Manheim.

The history of Zion's Evangelical Lutheran Church, at Manheim, East Pennsylvania

nia Synod, is interesting. The pioneer building of this church was a small log building, which stood until 1770, when it was destroyed by fire. Tradition says the brand that set the fire was brought from a neighboring house. While the church was burning the minister came on the scene prepared to preach his Sunday morning sermon from the desk. On Dec. 4, 1772, Baron Stiegel deeded a lot in Manheim to the Trustees of the Lutheran congregation for the consideration of 5s. and for ground rent, the annual rent of "one red rose in the month of June forever, if lawfully demanded." It was only twice demanded by the Baron personally, 1793 and 1794, and paid. Peter Erman, Henry Wherley, and Henry Montzall were the Trustees named in the original indenture. The log church erected



Mrs. Rebecca C. Boyer,  
Oldest Descendant of Baron Stiegel.

thereon had three side galleries and a candlestick pulpit. The floor was brick and the walls chinked and daubed. A few years later the walls were plastered and a wooden floor laid, and a 500-pound bell put in the belfry. The bell was placed by Ulrich Keyser, who said he wanted to be buried with "Klang und gesang." The first five pastors were the Rev. Dr. Muhlenberg, 1771 to 1778; the Rev. John Daniel Schroeter, 1778 to 1782; the Rev. Frederick Theodore Melsheimer, 1783 to 1789; the Rev. John David Young, 1789 to 1790, and the Rev. John Frederick Ernst, 1802 to 1805. Mr. Ernst passed away hearbroken, and is buried in the churchyard. During his pastorate he delivered an oration one Fourth of July at Big Spring, near town, for which the Church Council locked the door of the church against him. This action worried him, illness followed, and his death occurred Oct. 24, 1805. The other pastors

were Henry Scilla, 1807; William Bates, 1810-1828; Ruthroff Frederick, 1828-1832; Peter Sahn, 1833-1835; C. P. Miller, 1836-1841; Charles Frederick, 1842-1849; J. H. Menges, 1849-1851; C. Rees, 1854-1856; George Hains, 1857-1858; D. P. Rosenmiller, 1858; Joseph R. Focht, 1864-1866; Mr. Kemper, 1866-1869; J. C. Barnitz, (supply,) 1869-1870; Jacob Peter, 1871-1890; John H. Menges, 1891-1893; Luther Lindsay, 1894. The Rev. L. L. Lohr, the present pastor, entered upon his duties on June 1, 1894. The Elders of the church are John S. Henry, George D. Miller, John F. Devert, and J. H. Sieling, M. D.; Trustees—C. Bear, the Hon. C. G. Boyd, H. S. Witmyer, and L. F. White.



The present church was erected in 1891, dedicated April 21, 1892, and cost \$13,000. It is of brick, a base course of sandstone, resting on the east end of the churchyard. The edifice is 92 feet long and 55 feet wide, divided into six apartments, which can be thrown into one. It is lighted throughout by gas, and is steam heated. A pipe organ costing \$2,500 is in the auditorium. The seating capacity of the auditorium is 309. The church has a membership of 200, the Sunday school 325. The church tower is 80 feet high. Dr. J. H. Sicling's Bible class gave the bell, which weighs 2,850 pounds. Stained glass windows are prominent. In the circular window back of the pulpit there is a large red rose in memory of Baron Stiegel. The services are principally in English. One German sermon is delivered every other Sunday morning. It is proposed to erect a chime of ten bells to be called the "Baron Stiegel Memorial Chime."

The following prayer is a translation from the German, found on the blank leaves of a German hymnbook, once the property of Stiegel. It is in his own handwriting, and was doubtless indited during the time of his misfortunes. In its German construction it shows that the writer was no ordinary scholar:

Honored and truthful God, Thou hast in Thy laws earnestly forbidden lying and false witness, and hast commanded on the contrary that the truth shall be spoken. I pray Thee with all my heart that Thou wouldst prevent my enemies who, like snakes, are sharpening their tongues against me, and who, although I am innocent, seek, assassinlike, to harm and ridicule me, and defend my cause and abide faithfully with me. Save me from false mouths and lying tongues, who make my heart ache, and who are a horror. Save me from the stumbling stones and traps of the wicked which they have prepared for me. Let me not fall among the wicked and perish among them. Turn from me disgrace and contempt, and hide me from the poison of their tongues. Deliver me from the bad people, and that the misfortune they utter about me may recoil on them. Smite the slanderers, and let all lying mouths be stopped of those who delight in our misfortunes and when we are caught in snares, so that they may respect and turn to Thee.

Take notice of my condition, O Almighty God, and let my innocence come to light. Oh, woe unto me that I am a stranger and live under the huts of others. I am afraid to live among those who hate friends. I keep the peace. My Lord, come to my assistance in my distress and fright amongst my enemies, who hate me without a cause, and who are unjustly hostile, even the one who dips with me in the same dish is a traitor to me. Merciful God, who canst forgive transgression and sin, lay not this sin to their charge. Forgive them, for they know not what they do. Forbear with me, so that I may not scold again as I have been scolded,

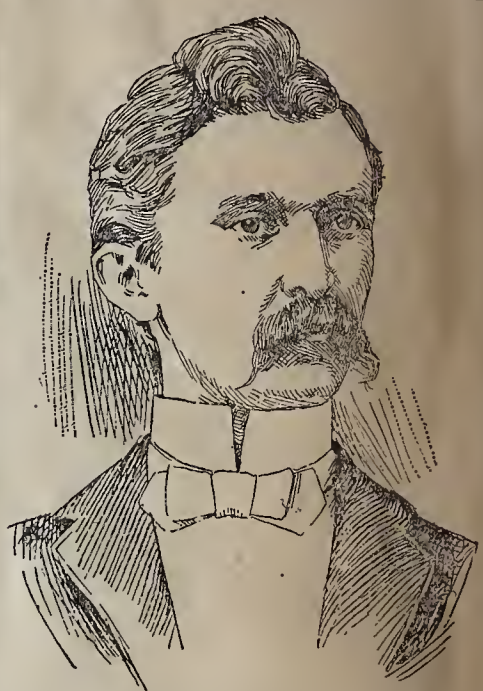


**Mansion of Baron Stiegel,**  
At Manheim, Penn. It was Built About 1760.

and not reward the wicked with wickedness, but that I may have patience in tribulation, and place my only hope on Thee, O Jesus, and Thy holy will. Almighty God! if thereby I shall be arraigned and tried for godliness, then I will gladly submit, for Thou wilt make all well. Grant unto me strength and patience, that I may, through disgrace or honor, evil or good, remain in the good, and that I may follow in

the footsteps of Thy dearly beloved Son, my Lord and Saviour, who had to suffer so much for my sake. Let me willingly suffer all wrongs that I may not attempt to attain my crown with impatience, but rather to trust in Thee, my Lord and God, who seest into the hearts of all men, and who canst save from all disgrace. Yet, Lord, hear me and grant my petition, so that all may turn to the best for mine own and my soul's salvation, for Thy eternal will's sake. Amen.

On the afternoon of the "Feast of Roses" Dr. Lohr will preach the memorial sermon. Recitations will be made by



**The Rev. L. L. Lohr,**  
Pastor of the Lutheran Church at Manheim, Penn.

Miss Dora Smith of Gettysburg and Miss Minnie Spickler of Lancaster. Addresses will follow by J. S. Yocum and A. F. Hostetter of the Lancaster bar. Then will come the payment of the red rose by the pastor, Dr. Lohr, and its acceptance by Miss M. M. Horning, great-great-granddaughter of Baron Stiegel. In the evening the children's service will be held, and Walter Lawrence will speak on "Great Men."

On June 5, 1892, the rental rose was paid to J. C. Stiegel, a great-great-grandson of the Baron. The rose was paid to Mrs. Rebecca C. Boyer on June 18, 1893, and also in 1894 and 1895.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown Pa*  
Date, *July 11, 1896*



## A BUSY HAMLET.

### History of the Village of Kintnersville.

A Paper Read Before the Buckwampun Historical and Literary Society at Revere, by Rev. S. S. Diehl, on June 13, 1896.

It is not our privilege to write about a place that is very famous, nor is it our lot to speak about a place of any considerable size; yet it might be much easier to write a sketch of many a noted place than of this little country village.

There are places whose history is always kept well in mind, while the history of others is permitted to fall into oblivion. Such seems to be the case with the little town with whose history I am to entertain you. No historian has yet arisen to relate the exploits and adventures of this town, nor has any bard yet trained his muse to sing the praises of the place and the achievements of its inhabitants.

Nature has given to this little village many advantages which much larger places often do not enjoy. The scenery surrounding it is magnificent, and the atmosphere is exhilarating. Where the little stream of Gallow's Run is slowly wending its way to the beautiful Delaware; where the Delaware river begins to break through the hills and form the magnificent Pennsylvania Palisade, there is situated the beautiful and busy little hamlet of Kintnersville.

The first record we have of the owner of the land upon which Kintnersville is situated is in 1743, when Surveyor General Nicholas Scull surveyed the bounds and meters of Nockamixon township. Some property was then owned by Thomas Blair. As near as we can get at any definite conclusion, Thomas Blair must have owned the property on the other side, north of Gallow's Run, and along that run to the Delaware river, including the property now owned by Alonzo Nicholas. Mr. Blair, no doubt, bought this property from the Penn brothers. He was an Englishman and a noted land owner in those times. On the 17th of February, 1743, we find that a tract of 101 acres of land on this side, south of Gallow's Run was sold by John, Thomas and Richard Penn to Jacob Froelich, of Bethlehem, Northampton county, Pa. Thus we find that Jacob Froelich was the first owner of the land on which the village is located.

In the year 1749, a man, whose descendants figured very prominently in the history of Kintnersville, settled in the hill region of Nockamixon township, near where now is the Herstine pottery. This man was George Kintner, (now spelled Kintner,) he carried on the potting business and supplied the Durham furnace with earthenware until it blew out in 1792. He then moved to the Delaware Water Gap, where he was accidental-

ly drowned in the Delaware river. During the Revolutionary war he was a captain of a troop of cavalry. He had two sons and one daughter. Joseph died young and Jacob moved back to Bucks county, on the old homestead, and on April 19th, 1812, he bought the property on which Kintnersville is situated from Joseph Froelich, Jr., son of the original land owner. The sum paid for the property was \$26.75. The only houses on the site of Kintnersville when Mr. Kintner came there were a log house, where William Ruffner now lives, and a little frame house near where Albert Stover's house now stands, and a stone house on Alonzo Nicholas' place. In 1818, a Mr. Deemer, an uncle of our townsman, Levi Deemer, built a little house nearly opposite Mr. Kintner's log house on the other side of Gallow's Run. Mr. Kintner upon coming to this place carried on the potting business, the shop being near the log house in which he lived. He had a man in his employ by the name of Miller. He was a colored man and the first one of that race that lived in this part of the country, so he was regarded as quite a curiosity. Mr. Kintner carried on a very extensive business in his line, his teams with earthenware used to go north as far as Stroudsburg and the Pocono mountains, over a large portion of New Jersey and south as far as Wilmington, Delaware. In 1814 Mr. Kintner built a larger and more commodious residence for himself; this was a portion of the house where John Kiser now lives. He next built a frame house where John Gutekunst now lives. In 1818 he built the tavern and sold it the same year to Lewis Algart. In 1828 he built the brick house where Dr. W. N. Leedom now lives. The frame house of Frank Adams was built by Mr. Kintner, in about 1818, as a store building, and here he carried on the mercantile business until he sold out to the McFarland Brothers, John and George.

Rutledge Thornton opened a store in the present shoemaker shop of John Kiser in 1823, having bought the property from Stephen Brock, sheriff of Bucks county. Here he carried on the business until he was elected sheriff of Bucks county in 1839. He was succeeded in the mercantile business by Samuel and James Boileau. In 1847 Elias Steckel commenced to build the store where Wallace Yost now lives, but he died before it was completed. Jacob Kiser, father of our townsman, John Kiser, bought the property unfinished and completed the building in 1847. Levi Sassaman was the first man engaged in the business in the new store. He was followed by Thomas S. Headman, and he by Levi M. Althouse. In 1879 Levi M. Althouse built the large and commodious building in which the mercantile business is now carried on. This is one of the most complete stores to be found in the county. There you can buy anything in the general store line, from a fishing hook to the finest suit of clothes. In addition he also does a very extensive business in Baugh's fertilizers. His junior clerk, R. L. Clymer, is the agent and he says the beautiful fields of grain, grass and corn found in Nockamixon are due to the use of this well-known article.

One of the best known business places in Kintnersville is the saw and grist mill



of Albert Stover. Here for several generations the farmers from the surrounding country have taken their grain and corn and had it converted into chop, etc., for use in feeding their large herds of cattle, which are found throughout this section of country. Just when the first mill was built is somewhat in doubt, but we are sure it was built before 1793. The mill was built by Jacob Froelich, Sr., the original owner of the land whereon Kintnersville is located. We find that on the 10th day of January, 1772, said Jacob Froelich, Sr., made a will in which his estate (land) was to be divided between his children. On the 29th of January, 1796, we find a deed wherein the grist mill, together with 11 acres and 52 perches of land, is deeded to Jacob Froelich, Jr., the son of the original owner, as his share of his father's estate, according to the will of 1772. So from these two instruments we are sure the mill was built between the making of the will, 1772, and the deeding of the property in 1796. In 1812 Jacob Froelich sold the mill and surrounding property to Jacob Kintner. In 1814 Jacob Kintner sold it to John Garis. In 1817 John Garis sold it again to Jacob Kintner. Stephen Brock, sheriff of Bucks county, sold it to William Long in 1823, the same year Mr. Long sold it to David Treichler. In 1832 David Treichler died, after his death the property went into the charge of the widow and son, William Newton Treichler, the same holding the property until the death of the son in 1866. During his life he built up a large and extensive trade in the lumber business. People came from portions of Lehigh, Berks, Montgomery and all the upper end of Bucks county, for the purpose of buying lumber. Mr. Treichler bought from 30 to 40 rafts at a time for his lumber yards. During his time in 1846 he tore down the old mills and built a large grist mill and two saw mills attached. After his death in 1867, the mill property was transferred to Mrs. Phoebe Williams, wife of James Williams. In 1869 Phoebe Williams sold the mills to Albert Stover. There was in early times a carding mill connected with the grist mill. In 1887, the saw, grist and planing mills were entirely destroyed by fire. The saw mill was rebuilt in the winter of 1887 and 88, and the grist mill was rebuilt in 1888. Mr. Stover in 1894 also built a roundry back of his mills; this he operates himself and does casting at a very high order. In 1832 Mr. Treichler built the house in which Mr. Stover now lives and in 1845 Newton Treichler, son of David Treichler, built the fine brick residence of Benjamin W. Pursell.

During the time the canal was built, about 1826 to 1831, Kintnersville was one of the headquarters for the workmen, and it is said some lively times were to be seen among them. Mrs. David Treichler had quite a number of these workmen as boarders in the old original house on the site of Albert Stover's house. One time a fight arose among the boarders and Mrs. Treichler leaned over the table to defend her dishes which the belligerents began to make use of as weapons of warfare. Amongst the boarders of Mrs. Treichler was George Law, who became very wealthy. He built the Easton dam and way lock, the

Gallows Run aqueduct and Narrowsville lock. He afterward went to New York and for many years he was running the only line of steamships from New York to Liverpool and other European cities. Kintnersville has had different names applied to it in its history. It was first called Pleasant Valley. In 1828 when Andrew Jackson was elected President, a pole was raised at the hotel of Lewis Algard and the place was then called Kintnerville, the letter s being omitted from the name. This name was given in honor of Jacob Kintner. Three Jacksonian women in the neighborhood made a flag that was suspended from the old hickory. The ladies who made the flag were Mrs. Lippincott, Mrs. Sarah Kintner and Mrs. John Mills.

In 1849 the post office was established and the place was called Kintnersville. Samuel Boileau was the first postmaster.

The first school in Kintnersville was in a shop back of John Kiser's residence. This was in 1818. In 1820 the school was transferred to a room in the old carding mill. In 1826 the first school house was built. This is the present hide and tallow house of the Bean Bros., butchers. The neighborhood built this house. David Treichler gave the lumber, Jacob Overpeck, Moses Weaver and John Mills were the principal contributors. The first man teaching in the new building was John M. Pursell, father of our townsman, Benjamin W. Pursell. When the free school system went into effect the school house was built at its present site.

It is the pride of our citizens that the first Sunday school in this section of country was organized in our little village.

It was organized in the old school house in 1855. Michael H. Yost was the first superintendent and Theodore Miller assistant. It is a pleasant thought, no doubt, to Mr. Yost, who is still living, that 41 years afterward his son, Wallace W. Yost, should be superintendent of the Sunday school in the same town.

In 1856 the Sunday school was moved to the old starch factory for lack of accommodation in the school house. At present the Sunday school is held in their beautiful chapel, which was dedicated for that purpose on the 21st of Oct., 1894, having been transferred to the chapel from Frank Adams' hall.

Soon after the organization of the Sunday school church services were held in the starch factory every four weeks by Rev. Grant, a Presbyterian clergyman from Easton, and Rev. Spoor, of the Christian church, at Milford, N. J.

Kintnersville in the past has been the seat of a variety of industries. In 1812 and many years afterward the potting business was very extensively carried on by Jacob Kintner. In a shop back of John Kiser's house, built by Mr. Algart in 1818, the cooper business was carried on for a long time. Napoleon Fell was the head cooper.

In the basement of the house of John Kiser, Patrick McKnight in about 1820 carried on the weaving of bed ticking, this was carried on for many years.

When the potting business came to an end, the shop was used by three Yankees from Connecticut for the manufacture of horse rakes. These were the first rakes made in this section of the country. This



was in 1847 and continued for about three years. Later a part of the old potting shop was used as a tailor shop by William Dunlap. The other part was used by Hiram Cary from 1866 to 68 as a marble shop.

One of the buildings that figured very prominently in the history of Kintnersville was the famous old starch factory on the site where Sheriff Nicholas' hay press is now situated. The factory was built in 1848 by Abraham and Henry Houpt. The manufacture of starch was carried on extensively by these parties for several years. It was afterward converted into a carriage factory. The proprietors of the industry were Henry Bloom and Paul Williamson. During the war period it was used for storing tobacco and manufacturing cigars. Peter Nicholas at that time had several colored men employed on his plantation in raising tobacco.

In 1871, 2 and 3, it was used as a shoe factory. Then again Mr. Nicholas used it for the manufacture of sugar and molasses. He raised large quantities of sugar cane on his farm. He also used it as a storage house for rhubarb wine which he manufactured very extensively. Lastly it was used by Sheriff Nicholas as a hay press, when in 1888 it was burned to the ground, and thus ended the existence of a building that had experienced great vicissitudes of use. A new hay press was erected and is now operated by Adam Heater. The roads of Kintnersville may interest us somewhat. The first public road, no doubt was the one from Pursell's Ferry along the river. The road from the Durham Road starting at the "Old Harrow Tavern" down Gallows' Run through Kintnersville to the intersection of the road from Pursell's Ferry (river road) was laid out in 1793. This road was on the other side (north side) of Gallows' Run. In 1826 the road was located where it now is. This heretofore had been simply a lane. The inhabitants of Kintnersville seem to have been men who took great interest in political affairs, and they seem to have been especially favored by the voters of Bucks county for political honors. Three of its inhabitants had the honor of being sheriff of Bucks county, Jacob Kintner elected in 1824, Rutledge Thornton elected in 1839, Alonzo Nicholas elected in 1893. In 1875 Benjamin W. Pursell was elected register of wills, in 1845 John C. Maule was elected recorder of deeds, in 1884 Charles D. Bigley was elected clerk of quarter sessions, in 1888 Alonzo Nicholas was elected director of the poor. We are very doubtful if any other place of its size in the county had more political preference.

The inhabitants of the village as a rule are law abiding, honest and industrious. It is a place where people as a general thing seem to attend their own business and let their neighbors attend to theirs, and this is one of the best qualities of the citizens of any community. If the citizens of Kintnersville would arise and seize the opportunities they have at hand, it would not be the little country village it now is, but it would be one of the best business places in this section of country. We trust by the time the next historian is to write the history of the place, he will find an active, bustling town with industries scattered along its river

front, and upon its hills, the envy of surrounding towns. As James A. Garfield said "Mark Hopkins, president of Williams College, on one end of a log and a student on the other, makes a college," so one active business man with plenty of money in his pocket and not afraid to use it for the benefit of his fellowmen and community can make a thriving town.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown Pa*

Date, *July 22<sup>nd</sup> '96*

## MIDSUMMER MEETING

### Of the Bucks County Historical Society.

An Excellent Historical Meeting and a Most Successful Social Gathering at "Sharon," Newtown—A Large Audience Listens to Valuable Papers.

The historical meeting on Tuesday, at "Sharon," Newtown, was one of the most successful events in the society's history. Excellent, entertaining and valuable papers and the addition of thirty-five names to the membership roll were the encouragements and evidences of material interest in the historical society. A large attendance, the lavish hospitality of the hosts—Mr. and Mrs. Thornton and the local members—and the assembling of people with a history and revering their history, were the basis of that social enjoyment which contributes largely toward the pleasure of historical meetings and which has done much in recent years to make the Bucks County Historical Society and its meetings what they are.

Embowered with trees and surrounded by a splendid lawn the Worth mansion was most picturesque and attractive. The sward was smooth and closely carpeted as a carpet. The trees were in perfection of foliage. The day proved pleasant for out-doors existence. The drapings of doorways and speak stand in the National colors lent just the requisite amount of bright color, and scene and surroundings were most pleasing.

Guests and members began gathering



at the appointed time, and somewhat after the hour General Davis called the meeting to order. There was a goodly attendance assembled upon benches and chairs beneath the splendid shade trees to listen to a paper by Rev. D. K. Turner, entitled "General Andrew Pickens," a native of Bucks county, born in 1739, and one of those patriots who rendered most efficient and valuable service to the American cause. Mr. Turner's paper is in the INTELLIGENCER's possession and will be printed entire at an early day. Except this paper and the election of some eighteen persons to membership, nothing was done at the morning session.

During the noon recess the board of trustees held a session, at which the subject of picturesque historical work was considered. After some consultation the following resolution was adopted, which was presented to the society and ratified at the afternoon session:

At a meeting of the trustees of the Bucks County Historical Society held July 21, 1896, the following were appointed a committee on picturesque history: J. P. Hutchinson, Newtown; Miss Agnes B. Williams, Solebury; Mrs. Alfred Paschall, Doylestown; Henry C. Mercer, Esq., Doylestown; Miss Sarah A. Twining, Yardley. The committee is authorized to procure a suitable album and draw upon the treasurer for the amount of their bill. They are desired to appoint one of their number as curator and to procure all pictures possible of local historic scenes, buildings and objects, which shall be placed in the album and shall become the property of the society.

From work the members and guests were called to refreshments which were spread on tables beneath the trees. Here the elders were waited upon by the juniors and a social hour was passed with much pleasure and profit.

Promptly at two o'clock the business of the day was resumed with the presentation of candidates for membership. A resolution was then presented by the secretary, to rescind the resolution of January 21, 1891, which provided for the holding of business sessions of the society at the mid-summer meeting. The necessity thereof was found in the former small attendance at the mid-winter meetings. Conditions had changed much for the better within two years past, and as it was no longer necessary to defer business the former status of affairs was restored.

The committees on marking the grave of Tammany, on securing a proper representation of Bucks county on the great seal of Pennsylvania, and on revision of the by-laws were continued. The committee on memorial at the Washington headquarters, the old Keith property, reported verbally through John S. Williams, chairman. Dr. John Paxson, the present owner and occupant of the property, was entirely willing that a suitable bronze tablet should be placed upon the old headquarters, by the society. Inquiry as to the cost of a properly inscribed tablet had estimated the necessary expense at above \$30. This sum would provide a plate about 18x24 inches, which was deemed about the right size. Under instruction of a motion by Rev. Mr. Turner, the committee was continued and authorized to have a suitable memorial plate made and properly placed upon the

wall of the structure that sheltered the head of the patriot army just previous to the battle of Trenton.

The presentation of papers was then resumed by the introduction of W. J. Hoffman, of Washington D. C., who read an article upon "Some Historic Indians." Mr. Hoffman's paper took a wider than local scope and was informative as well as interesting.

J. P. Hutchinson presented the specially local historical address of the occasion. Mr. Hutchinson's paper discussed Newtown prior to 1890. It was a most comprehensive and valuable chapter of history covering the time from 1684 to 1800. The following are extracts: The "townstead" of Penn embraced a tract of about a mile square, and was plotted in 1684, as shown by Holmes' map of the Proprietor. Persons taking up surrounding land were allotted ten per cent. of their acreages within the townstead. The farm west of the borough which belonged to the estate of the late Alexander German is believed to be nearly identical with one of the original ten per cent. tracts. The boundary lines between tracts became laneways and probably the roads radiating from Newtown to-day are nearly upon the lines of original purchases.

Newtown commons was a tract of land in the centre of the town reserved by Penn for the common use of all the people in the enjoyment of the waters of the creek. The tract was surveyed by John Cutler in 1716 and was to have been confided to the charge of trustees. The death of a majority of the trustees before the consummation of the plan lead to a proposition for a resurvey in 1727 and the purchase of the land by the adjoining owners of real estate. The tract was again surveyed in 1796, and after being divided into fifty-five lots was, on August 1, of that year, exposed at public sale. One-third of the proceeds of the sale was to go to the academy, or for a school then established, another third was for the township schools, and the remaining third was for the uses of the townstead. The organization "Trustees of Newtown Commons" is in existence at the present time but has rarely any purpose to serve.

The first permanent settlers about Newtown were Stephen Twining, William Buckman, Thomas Hillborn, Ezra Croasdale, John Frost, Shadrack Walley and James Yates. The first patent for land was to Thomas Rowland, for five hundred acres dated April 15, 1685.

The oldest institution of Newtown to-day is the Presbyterian Church. The first pastor was Rev. Hugh Carlisle who presided previous to 1739. The present building was erected in 1769, James Boyd became the pastor in 1769 and continued in charge for nearly half a century. A lottery, a common resort in those times, was resorted to as a means of raising funds in 1761. The other oldest institution is the Newtown Library. The first minutes record the date 1760. Joseph Thornton was librarian and the books were kept in his house.

March 24, 1724 an Act of Assembly authorized Jeremiah Langhorne, William Biles, Joseph Kirkbride, Thomas Watson, M. D., and Abraham Chapman to purchase a tract of land in Newtown and to build thereon a Court house and jail.



price was limited to \$500. The lot fronted on what is now State street. The elections for the whole county were held in this court house until 1786. In 1786 the building now occupied as offices by Mr. Hutchinson was erected by the county, the previous accommodations having been out grown. The courts were held at Newtown from 1725 to 1813.

Newtown was an important point during the Revolution. It was a depot for supplies and was the headquarters of Washington from the 27th to the 29th of December, 1776, just after the battle of Trenton. Lord Sterling, a prominent officer under Washington, had his headquarters in Newtown and British prisoners were detained in the town.

The robbery of the county treasury at Newtown, October 22, 1781, was one of the notable criminal events of the locality and county. The band of outlaws, headed by the Doans, secured from John Hart, county treasurer, \$735 in specie and \$1300 in paper, for which crime two of the Doans and one of their colleagues paid the penalty of their lives.

Among the prominent men of Newtown's earlier days Mr. Hutchinson mentioned and briefly sketched Judge Gilbert Hicks; Isaac Hicks, who was recorder, prothonotary, clerk of orphans court and justice of the peace; Edward Hicks, the eminent minister among Friends, and Col. Francis Murray, prominent and useful in both military and civic life.

Newtown has been always an educational centre, the first school of which there is record being that of Andrew McMinn. In 1798 was erected the Newtown Academy. Temperance was a principle among the people and 1746 witnessed a petition to suppress certain public houses.

Under the caption "Old Buildings," Mr. Hutchinson enumerated the "Bird in Hand," a hostelry on State street; the "Court Inn," at Court and Sullivan streets; the "Brick Hotel," a portion of the present structure of that name; the "Justices' House," and the "Temperance House" built by Schoolmaster McMinn.

Henry C. Mercer read the concluding paper of the sessions "Notes Taken at Random," which introduced some unique material, from folk lore of the Lehigh Valley to fire lighting by aboriginal methods. Mr. Mercer has permitted the INTELLIGENCER to have his paper and it will be printed entire very soon.

For a brief time after the close of the session an interested group surrounded Mr. Mercer asking questions and witnessing some of the fire lighting methods he had described.

Just before the close of the meeting John S. Williams offered an appropriate vote of thanks on behalf of the Historical Society, to the hosts of the day who had so cordially and hospitably entertained the members and guests; especially was acknowledgement made to the owners of "Sharon," who had opened their house and grounds for the society's pleasure and accommodation, and generally to all the local committee of arrangements whose time, efforts and courtesy had contributed to make the day a conspicuous success as well as a source of great enjoyment to the large audience present.

The following named persons were proposed and elected to membership: Mrs. John S. Williams, Miss Agnes B. Williams, Solebury; Henry W. Watson, Samuel C. Eastburn, Langhorne; Mrs. H. B. Eastburn, George P. Brack, Miss Louise Buckman, Mrs. Henry S. Murdt, Mrs. Robert M. Yardley, William C. Newell, Doylestown; S. Gordon Smyth, Oliver Hough, Lettie W. Shourds, Miss Mary Jane Ring, Mrs. Priscilla Ring Archambault, Philadelphia; Henry H. Younken, Neckamixon; E. E. Althouse, Sellersville; Captain William Wynkoop, Ashbel W. Watson, Mrs. Jennie Y. Watson, George C. Worstall, Mrs. Huldah Worstall, Thaddeus Kenderdine, George A. Jenks, Mrs. Ellen D. Jenks, Dr. Charles B. Smith, Mrs. M. Anna Smith, Evan T. Worthington, Mrs. Sarah F. Worthington, Jesse B. Twining, Newtown; Mrs. Letitia Twining, Miss Sarah A. Twining, Yardley; Mrs. Anna C. Atkinson, Buckingham; Mrs. Mary A. Vandegrift, Edlington.

Then closed the mid-summer historical meeting of 1896—one of the most successful meetings as well as one of the most enjoyable and profitable events in the society's history. Of large and lasting value to the society, of great pleasure to the 250 to 300 persons present, and full of promise for the future of the association which in recent years has awakened to fresh zeal and activity.

The following list comprises the names of many of the members of the society and guests present:

Hon. Edward M. Paxson, Albert S. Paxson, Buckingham; Rev. D. K. Turner, Hartsville; Mrs. Priscilla Ring Archambault, Miss Mary Jane Ring, Mrs. Carroll R. Williams, Howard W. Lippincott, Henry M. Twining, Miss Emma Fell, J. E. Gillingham, William Jenks Fell, Philadelphia; Mr. and Mrs. John Willets, Haddonfield, N. J.; Samuel C. Cadwallader, Upper Makefield; Dr. John P. Agnew, Brownsburg; Mr. and Mrs. Richard H. VanHorn, Miss Mary Anderson, Lambertville, N. J.; John S. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Asher Mattison, Miss A. B. Williams, Solebury; Ex-Senator and Mrs. Charles S. Vandegrift, Edlington; Mrs. Joseph Smith, Mrs. Letitia Twining, Miss Sarah A. Twining, Mrs. Mulford, Yardley; Miss Mary McKeen, Camden, N. J.; W. J. Hoffman, Washington, D. C.; Samuel C. Eastburn, Langhorne; Mrs. Anna J. Williams, Holcomb; E. R. Kirk, Pineville; Miss H. E. Carpenter, Bowling Green, Ky.; Miss Mary Holmes, Philadelphia.

Dr. Lettie A. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. George C. Worstall, Mr. and Mrs. Silas Carey, Mr. and Mrs. Ashbel W. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Buckman, Dr. and Mrs. Charles Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Evan T. Worthington, J. P. Hutchinson, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Thornton, Miss Margaret Thornton, Miss Mary Goodman, Thaddeus Kenderdine, Watson P. Church, Dr. G. T. Heston, Jesse B. Twining, Mrs. Anna J. Pickering, Miss Mary Barusley, Captain William Wynkoop, Mrs. Freda Bryan, John M. Stapler, P. O. Benjamin Battin, Miss Belle Vansant, Mrs. Edward Buckman, Miss Annie Hough, Edward Ritchie, Miss Hanna M. Holcomb, Mrs. George Nutt, Miss Evelyn B. Wynkoop, Newtown.

Gen. W. W. H. Davis, Henry C. Mar-



cer, Mrs. Richard Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Paschall, Mr. and Mrs. William C. Newell, Mrs. John Yardley, T. O. Atkinson, Miss Ellen D. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh B. Eastburn, Mr. and Mrs. E. Wesley Keeler, Miss Addie T. Buckman, Mrs. Henry S. Murfit, Miss Jane Watson, Mrs. Robert M. Yardley, Miss Florence Kephart, Miss Agnes Darlington, Edward H. Buckman, Henry A. James, Miss Caroline Worthington, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Trego, Irvin F. Paschall, Doylestown.

## OLDEN TIME ENTERPRISE

### The Trials of Early Settlers in Upper Bucks.

A Paper Read Before the Buckwampun  
Historical and Literary Association by  
Miss Clara R. Laubach, of Riegels-  
ville, at Revere, June, 13, 1896.

Our forefathers unfortunately failed to anticipate the pleasure which an account of their exploits would afford posterity. Thus we, in many instances, vainly seek for information which might readily have been supplied had they fully grasped the idea that they were creating history while employed at their daily avocations. To our mind it appears that they lived, labored and were at last laid to rest, leaving to posterity an honored name without attempting a record of their self-sacrificing and noble deeds.

On Laubach's creek, in Lower Saucon township, is an old mill still in operation, the walls and much of the interior being the same as when created. About five-eighths of a mile northwest on the same stream are the foundation walls of another mill and saw mill which were destroyed by fire in the winter of 1859-60. The earliest official record of these enterprises begin shortly after the arrival of Andrew Lerch, aged 50 years; Peter, 20 years of age, and Anthony, 18 years of age. The above were accompanied by Renhart Laubach, aged 70, and his son, Christian, wife and family. They embarked at Rotterdam on the Rhine, on the ship Queen Elizabeth, Alexander Hope captain, stopping at Deal, England, and finally landed at Philadelphia, and qualified on the 16th day of September, 1738. After subscribing their names to the following qualification paper they proceeded on their way to find a suitable place to settle and in the same year made Saucon, about two and a half miles northwest of the 1727 Durham iron works their home, Saucon at the time being within the limits of Bucks county.

We append the qualification in full: "We subscribers, natives and late inhabitants of the Palatinate upon the Rhine, and adjacent, having transported ourselves and families in the Province of Pennsylvania, a colony subject to Great Britain, in hopes and expectations of finding a retreat and peaceable settle-

ment therein: Do solemnly promise and engage that we will be faithful and bear true allegiance to his present Majesty King George the Second and his successors, Kings of Great Britain, and will be faithful to the proprietors of the province, and that we will demean ourselves peaceably to all his Majesty's subjects and strictly conform to the laws of England, and of this province, to the utmost of our power and best of our understanding."

Of a total of 324 passengers imported in the ship Queen Elizabeth, Alexander Hope captain, qualifying September 16, 1738, 104 were men, and 220 women and children.

We find no record that the Lerch's or Laubach's owned land in Saucon before 1745 or thereabout. If they did own land their deeds were not recorded, as the Germans were careless about such matters. But it appears by the Durham records that a portion of them were employed to cut and haul wood and burn charcoal at the 1727 Durham furnace; while Christian Laubach, his elder son, Peter Lerch, Anthony Lerch and Gratius Lerch, as well as other pioneer settlers in Saucon, then Bucks county, formed a company of volunteers to protect the towns of Nazareth, Bethlehem, Friedens-thall Mill and other frontier settlements from Indian raids, which were frequent throughout the Lehigh Valley during the years from 1754 to 1763. The company known as the "Saucon Rangers," led by Captain Laubach, was especially active during the Indian raid, November 26th, 1755.

In January, 1756, the Saucon Rangers, under command of Captain Laubach, were ordered to guard the Friedens-thall mill and stockades, where a large number of refugees, men, women and children, had assembled to escape the murderous Indians that swarmed in that section of country.

Among the numerous families who had fled to this place of refuge we find George Minier, wife and seven children; Philip Bosset, wife and six children; Jacob Steckert, wife and eleven children; Michael Roster, wife and five children; Adam Engler, wife and four children; Leonard Beyer, wife and four children; William Lerch, wife and three children; Peter Shafer, wife and three children; Martin Kind, wife and children; Frederick Siegler, wife and two children; William Stupe, wife and children; Hans Michel Walche, wife and two children, besides a large number of others who applied and were admitted to this "city of refuge." After the "Saucon Rangers" in 1761-62 had ended their tour of duty as colonial soldiers, they returned to their farms, mills and places of business and assumed the duties of citizens; but they made it a point to occasionally meet at the "Crown Inn," at Bethlehem, and recount their exploits and mishaps while engaged in fighting Indians.

Among the veterans present on these occasions we have the following: George Freyman, Philip Bretzer, Hans Fahs, Michael Weber, Fred Weber, Peter Graff, miller; Balzer Beil, Balzer Lehr, Captain Christian Laubach, George Raub, George Bachman, distiller; Matt Regle, Hans Landis, Honish Grosenvar and others. At these convivial occasions they laid their plans for the future. Here, fear-



they expressed their sentiments regard to current events: here they had their politics, the crops and the weather. They also invested the place in the natural order of things with all the importance of a rural exchange.

During the year 1745 Anthony Lerch, then about 35 years of age, was cutting wood along Laubach's creek a party of surveyors came along, who asked him where they could get whiskey. He replied it could not be procured nearer than at Bachman's, near Bethlehem. "Well then," they said, "fetch us a jug full, and while you are gone we will survey a farm for you." This they did, and he got his farm for a jug full of whiskey. On Feb. 12, 1755, Anthony Lerch obtained by Patent a certain tract of land in Saucon containing 232 acres in fee as by recited patent recorded in the office of Philadelphia in Patent Book A, vol. 19, page 78.

Shortly after we find him in possession of the mill property, and continued until May 1, 1773, when he conveyed the mill property to his son, Anthony Lerch, Jr., who continued the milling business until 1796, when he sold it to John Leidy, of Franconia township, Montgomery county, Pa. The property then consisted of mill, water power and 164 acres of land, bounded by lands of Christopher Klich, Peter Lerch and Frederick Laubach. The consideration was 2275£. After the death of John Leidy, miller, 1815, the property passed, or was purchased by Richline. He sold it in 1858 to George Applegate; Applegate to More in 1865; More to Oliver Myers; Myers to Harris; Harris to Ruch; Ruch to John Kinsman, Jr., the present owner. More in 1865 paid \$11000, Kinsman a few years ago paid

\$12.00 for the same property, showing a rapid depreciation of real estate.

Captain Christian Laubach having obtained by patent in 1750-1 a tract of land in Sancon in Laubach's creek about of a mile northwest of the Lerch property had erected a grist and saw mill thereon. At the present day it is difficult to determine which of the two mills, the Laubach or the Lerch, had been erected first. On April 28, 1762, he obtained by patent another tract in the same stream, and the same year he bought of George Brigle a tract containing 44½ acres, making 216 acres lying on both sides of Laubach creek. On the death of Christain Laubach the mill and saw mill in 1768 was by his will conveyed to his two sons, Conrad and Frederick.

Frederick continued the milling and sawing business until his death, April 7th, 1797, when his elder son, Rudolph, took charge of the mill and continued until his death in 1852.

After his decease his two sons, Rudolph, Jr., and Jesse, came into possession of the property. In 1856 the grist mill and store was destroyed by fire, a sad catastrophe for the firm of Laubach & Bro.

After the death of Rudolph and Jesse Laubach, the two sons of the latter took charge of the mill and farms and have succeeded in building up the business and are doing a flourishing trade. The homestead having continuously remained in possession of the direct descendants of Captain Christian Laubach for over one hundred and fifty years.

## TWO OLD FAMILIES.

### Bucks County Descendants Trace Their Ancestry.

The Mathews and Merediths Go Back 800  
Years to their Progenitors in Wales.  
Their Emigration to America and Settlement at New Britain.

Among the early Welsh settlers of New Britain, and what is now Doylestown township, were the families of Mathews and Meredith. Most old families are quite well satisfied to be able to trace descent as far back as their earliest American ancestors. To trace more remotely, in the old countries beyond the Atlantic, is attended with much expense and no little difficulty. The ancestry of the Mathews family, given below, we owe to the investigations of Messrs. Wilberforce & Mathews, of 1012 Walnut street, Philadelphia, a firm of attorneys late of London, who make a specialty of such researches. They were employed to do this by James Mathews, of Valley Forge, who is descended from Thomas Mathews, of Chalfont. The latter flourished as a blacksmith and autioneer during the latter decades of the last century and died in Philadelphia in 1832.

We know that if we go back far enough in the history of all Celtic, or Teutonic or Saxon families we come to people who were warlike barbarians, or at least semi-savages. This Welsh pedigree leads to Gwaethfold, a Prince, who lived in Wales between 1000 and 1100. Then there was a line of descent for thirteen generations, from the period when Wales was an independant State till after it became tributary to the English Kings. This descendant of Gwaethfold was Sir David Mathew. It was a warlike age. The contest between the houses of York and Lancaster had desolated England for thirty years. Edward IV had ascended the throne in 1461, and Sir David acted as his standard bearer. He had a grant of 2232 acres of land from Henry VII, the reversion of Bracton, and one from William, Earl of Parnbroke, of lands at S Faques, and also in Pentyrcle. He was slain by the Turoiles, in a riot at Neath in Glamorganshire, and was buried at Llandoff Cathedral, where he has a fine altar tomb.

The next in descent of whom we have trace, was the daughter of Sir George Herbert, of Chapel, whose name was Weulliam. Her sixth son was David Mathew, of Treoir and Lleweny, of Denhighshire. John, son of David, married Agnes, daughter of William, second son of Sir George Grange, whose title was Sir William Mathew, of Radyr. He was Knighted on Bosworth Field by Henry VII in 1485. His death took place March 10, 1528. His altar tomb is in Llandoff Cathedral. His coat of arms was a lion rampant and his crest a dove upon a wreath. Sir William had a daughter Jenet, who was co-heiress of Henry of Gwillim. Her



son, Sir George Mathew, died November 10, 1537. He was member of Parliament from Glamorganshire, and twice married.

The eldest son of Sir George Mathew was William, born in 1531. His will was registered September 13, 1587. He left sons, George and Marmaduke, born about 1550, and seven daughters. These sons were the ancestors of the Swansea and Cardiff branches of the family. From this period there is a break of one generation. Thomas Mathew, of Llanelly, was born about 1650, and was the grandson of either George or Marmaduke Mathew.

With the advance of civilization came softer manners, which were further enhanced by the progress of the Reformation and the dissemination of Puritan doctrines. J. Davis, in his history of the Welsh Baptists, says: "There were some Baptists in Llanelly, Carmarthenshire, before 1640. In 1653 they used to meet at the lower mill, in the town. They had two pastors at that time of the name of Meredith and Prosser. As for Meredith we know not what became of him after the persecution. It is supposed that he went to America. The members residing in the county then belonged to the church at Swansea, under the pastoral care of John Miles. In the time of the persecution the meetings were chiefly held at Alltfawr, Llanon Parish. Preaching was also held at Gellyrnyw, and other places, until a meeting house was erected at Llanelly, called Fainfoed, in 1709. Anthony Mathew, Simon Mathew and Simon Butler, members of the Swansea church, belonged to Llanelly, and went to America."

It must be understood that the Baptists, as well as other Nonconformist churches, enjoyed unlimited freedom during the period of the English Commonwealth, and under the sway of Oliver Cromwell. The time of the "persecution" came after the restoration of the Monarchy under Charles II, when it was sought to force every sect with conformity to the established church. It was this persecution that sent John Bunyan to Bedford jail for twelve years.

In another paragraph J. Davis says in regard to Swansea church. "It was regularly formed by John Miles in 1649. This church enjoyed much peace and prosperity under his ministry, until the persecution under Charles II. Afterwards the brethren had to meet in different and most secret places, such as Heol-las, Lledrebirth and Alltfawr, and in different private houses in Swansea. In 1698 they rented the old Presbyterian meeting house. In 1710 several of the members emigrated to America. The following is a copy of their recommendation:

"The church of Jesus Christ, members at Swansea, in Glamorganshire, owning believer's baptism, laying on of hands, the doctrine of personal election and final perseverance, to any church of Jesus Christ in the Province of Pennsylvania, in America of the same faith and order, to whom this may concern, send the Christian salutation: Whereas our dearly beloved brethren and sisters, by name Hugh Davis, an ordained minister and Margaret his wife, Anthony Mathew, Simon Mathew, Margaret Thomas, Samuel Hughes, Simon Butler, Andrew Melchoir, and Hannah, his wife, to go with brother Soweney to the Province of

Pennsylvania." This was signed by John Morgan, William Mathew, William Morgan, Hugh Mathew, John Howell, Owen Dowle, Morgan Nicholas, John Davis, Jacob Morgan, John Hughes, Robert Edwards, Philip Mathew and Thomas Morgan. Of this church in Wales, Morgan Jones, was pastor, who died in 1730.

Thomas Mathew previously mentioned and father of Simon the emigrant, was living in 1691 in Llanelly in Carmarthenshire. He had a son Thomas, also, and a daughter Martha, who married George Davis. Thomas, junior, died in the West Indies in 1691. He made a will leaving property to his father.

This article is not intended to further trace the history of the family in America. Simon Mathews and his church brethren first attached themselves to the Welsh Tract church, Pecander Hundred, New Castle county, Delaware. He came to New Britain in 1720 along with Simon Butler and Anthony Mathew. The latter died in 1725 and left no descendant. The old records show that the name was always spelled with one "t" but that the final "s" has been added about a century ago. This additional letter was added in modern times to many Welsh names, such as Jenkin, William, Hugh, John, Phillip and numerous others.

#### THE MEREDITH FAMILY.

Like most other Welsh families we find that in tracing back the Merediths that the first name of the father was used for the last name of the son; thus changing the surname with each generation. They are descended from the Prince of Pows. In a small volume of genealogy, entitled the "Prince of Pows," they are traced back to 1310 under the reign of Edward I. These princes exercised a sort of feudal sway over large territories, and enjoyed a kind of semi-independence of the English monarch. Frequently engaged in predatory forays upon each others dominions, and enjoying the excitement of tumult and battle these Welsh princes would, when hard pressed by their enemies, apply for help from the English to save themselves from overthrow. This Prince of Pows, anticipating the more complete subjugation of the country by the English sway in the time of Richard II made haste to give his allegiance to the English sovereign. Old chronicles relate that the first settlement of the Merediths was on the sea shore of Wales, where the sea rushed in with great impetuosity and noise. From this came the name of Meredyth, or Ameridith, and Maredydd, signifying in Welsh "animated one."

Nearly twenty years ago the writer received a letter from Hon. Henry Chapman containing valuable information concerning his maternal ancestors, the Merediths. It came to him in this wise: Chapman was Judge of the courts of Chester and Delaware counties for a few years, and resided in West Chester. One summer evening he was walking out with a friend of the Meredith name or relationship. The conversation turned upon such points and his companion readily told him the following. Chapman saw its importance and immediately made a memoranda of the information. The earliest ancestor that the relator had traced was David Vaughn. His son was named Evan David, succeeded



by William Evan; then by Meredith William, whose son, Hugh Meredith, was the father of Simon Meredith, who came to America. After this, the modern custom of names was followed. Allowing 33 years for a generation, or that time for each father to have been born previous to his son, we would find that David Vaughn was born in 1513, and that Hugh Meredith was born about 1645.

Simon Meredith came to Chester county and settled in East Nantmeal, in 1708. During the first winter he lived in a cave on his land, which was in existence down to recent times. His death took place in the summer of 1744. His children were four sons, John, James, Hugh and Thomas. Of these, John was born in Kadnorshire, Wales, from whence his father came, February 9, 1699. He married Grace Williams, daughter of Robert Williams, of Goshen, September 29, 1727, and had eleven children, born between 1728 and 1750. They became Friends, that being the religious faith of the mother family. John Meredith was the ancestor of the Chester county branch of the family.

James Meredith, brother of John, came to Bucks county soon after 1730 and settled at Castle Valley, now Doylestown township. He married Mary Nicholas, an-Episcopallady of Philadelphia, and died in January, 1775, at the age of 74. They had four sons, John, Simon, Thomas and Hugh. The latter became a physician, living in Doylestown, and was the father of Elizabeth, who married Hiram Chapman. James Meredith, was the ancestor of many descendants, who have lived in Bucks county. Concerning his brothers, Hugh and Thomas, there have been considerable tradition but no very accurate or reliable accounts.

—E. M.—

From, *Enterprise*  
*Newtown Pa*  
 Date, *Aug 1/96*

## NEWTOWN PRIOR TO 1800.

Paper Read at the Mid-summer Meeting of the Bucks County Historical Society, at "Sharon," near Newtown, on Tuesday, July 21st, 1896, by J. Pemberton Hutchinson, of Newtown.

### TOWNSTEAD.

Immediately after receiving a charter for the Province of Pennsylvania from King Charles II, on March 24th, 1681, Penn set about devising plans for establishing not only a large city in the province, but also for locating a number of towns therein. In order to carry out this latter scheme he offered prospective settlers who would pur-

chase from 5000 to 10,000 acres together, and adjacent to some suitable point for a town, to give them one-tenth of their respective purchases within the limits of the proposed town site, or, as he termed it, the "townstead."

Although some settlements were perhaps made at an earlier date in Wrightstown, the present site of Newtown was probably the first point after leaving the river near Bristol that was considered suitable for the founding of one of these proposed towns. Here was a fine stream, numerous springs and rich land—considerations not be overlooked in the settlement of a new country—and accordingly, on Holmes' map of 1684, made under the direction of Penn, we find the townstead or new town laid out and the surrounding land divided among fifteen different owners in tracts varying from 200 to 700 acres, with one tract on the north of town marked "Governor." The "Townstead" was a piece of land of about a mile square, with the stream, now called Newtown creek, running through its entire length near the middle. Persons taking up the surrounding land were, by agreement, allowed 10 per cent. of their purchases within the "townstead" and the remainder in country land adjoining.

The farm west of the town which belonged to the late Alexander German is believed to be very nearly identical with one of the original 10 per cent. townstead lots. The boundary lines between the various tractsserved at first only to mark laneways to the back lands. These laneways would naturally be gradually extended and become the public roads of to-day. So that it is more than probable that quite a number of the ten public roads leading out of Newtown at this time like the spokes of a wheel, are nearly upon the old lines of original purchase. The settlement thus made, though then largely upon paper, would very properly be referred to as the New Town, and it is thus quite easy to see how the name of Newtown, spelled with a capital "N," soon came to be engrafted upon the first of Penn's towns in the county of Bucks.

### THE COMMONS.

In accordance with another provision made by Penn with the early settlers of Newtown, and in order that all might have an equal right to the use of the waters of the creek, he reserved a rectangular piece of land, lying on both sides of the stream, extending the entire length of the town, for the common use alike of all the inhabitants of the village, and this was known as the "common land," or "Commons." It was originally surveyed and laid out by John Cutler, in pursuance of a warrant from the Commissioners of Property, dated Sixth-month 6th, 1716, and granted to Shadrack Walley, William Buckman, and John Frost, trustees on behalf of themselves and the other inhabitants of said township for the purposes above stated. These trustees all dying before the title thereto was fully perfected, the commons remained practically unchanged and un-



productive until 1727, when, on December 20th of that year, an agreement was entered into by Stephen Twining and nine others, then owners of the land about the townstead, to have the common land "re-surveyed, purchased from the Proprietary's Commissioners, and equally divided among the said landholders as best suited their lands and the public in general, and to lay out such streets or ways through the same as would give them all convenient access to the water." The tract included in the "Commons" was bounded on the south by the northerly line of Dr. George T. Heston's land, and extended northward along the easterly side of what is now State street to Frost's lane, or "Upper" street; thence westward to the toll gate on pike to Wrightstown, and southward along the westerly side of Sycamore street, called the "other" street, down by the Presbyterian Church to the aforesaid line of the Heston property. It included State street on the eastern border and Sycamore, on the western border, each 66 feet in width, and contained 40 acres and 97 square perches. Many of the present principal business places of the town, with an equal number of residences, are within its limits. It was again surveyed in 1796 by Isaac Hicks, and in consideration of £79 6s. a patent from the State was issued by Thomas Mifflin, then Governor, to William Buckman, Francis Murray, and others, on July 8th, 1796, and after being divided into fifty-five lots it was exposed to public sale and sold on August 1st of that year. The lots on Main street from the southerly line as far north as Washington avenue, except a lot just north of Centre avenue, were sold in fee simple, while those above Washington avenue, as far north as Frost lane, and those on Sycamore street, were sold on ground rent. But few of the lots above Washington avenue were improved, on many the ground rents were unpaid, and they reverted back to the trustees and were re-sold to other parties. According to agreement among the inhabitants of the township, dated April 1st, 1796, the proceeds of these sales were to be divided into three equal parts—one-third to go to the benefit of the academy or free school, then established in Newtown, "which said academy is to teach gratis all such poor scholars as may offer." Another one-third to go to the township for the benefit of a school or schools which were then or may be subsequently established in said township, exclusive of the townstead; the remaining one-third to be for the benefit of the townstead, in such manner and for such purposes as a majority of said trustees may direct.

This brings the history of the "Commons" up to 1800, but, in consequence of the death of all the trustees named in the patent except one, and the resignation of the trust by this one, further acts of the Legislature were required, and obtained, incorporating the "Trustees of the Newtown Commons," and fully authorizing them to carry out the provisions of the original trust. This organization is in existence at

the present time, but has little to do further than the occasional satisfaction of an old mortgage or the extinguishment of a ground rent.

#### PERMANENT SETTLERS.

The first to make permanent settlement about Newtown were Stephen Twining, William Buckman, Thomas Hillborn, Ezra Croasdale, John Frost, Shadrack Walley and James Yates, all of whom died between 1716 and 1720, except James Yates, who died in 1730. This was the James Yates who walked over the one and a half days' walk of the Indian Walk of 1686. The papers relating to this were lost, however, and the boundaries were never settled until 1737, when another James Yates, son of the James Yates above mentioned, accompanied Marshall in the great Indian Walk of that year. He lived in Newtown, in the old part of the house now occupied by Thomas P. Hampton, and became a member of the Friends' Society ten years before the great walk.

The first patent issued for land about Newtown was to Thomas Rowland, for 500 acres, and was dated Fourth-month 15th, 1685. The land was north and east of the Neshaminy and west of Newtown creek; 450 acres were outside of the townstead and 50 acres more were within the "village or townstead," and "one side thereof was on the street or road of said village," but the village had no name at the time of Rowland's patent.

Shadrack Walley was the only one of the original purchasers who ever lived in the New Town, where he married Mary Sharpe, in 1688, under the care of "Neshaminy (now Middletown) Monthly Meeting" of Friends. John Coat, who came from England in 1686 with a Friends' certificate, on presenting the same to Neshaminy Monthly Meeting, on Twelfth-month 3d, 1686, gave his residence as "New Town," in two words.

James Yates was the first owner of a farm in Newtown who ever lived on it. His land laid upon the southeasterly side of the town, about "The First Hollow." He built a mill on the creek running along the westerly side of his farm, and sold it to Henry Nelson in 1728. The remains of the old dam belonging to this mill may still be seen in the creek close to the southerly line of the commons lots.

#### PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The oldest institution existing in Newtown at the present day is the Presbyterian Church. It was originally composed of Scotch-Irish and English Presbyterians. Their first church building was a wooden structure, and was located about a half mile west of the town on land now occupied by the estate of Alexander German, deceased. The old graveyard attached to the church is still to be seen, and contains a number of quaint inscriptions on large marble slabs which mark the final resting places of prominent members of that day. The first regular pastor was the Rev. Hugh Carlisle, who presided until 1738. He was succeeded in 1739 by the Rev. Hugh Campbell, who,



however, occupied the pulpit but for a few months. The church then remained without any regular pastor until the Rev. Henry Martin, a graduate of Princeton, was called in 1752, and he remained in charge until his death in 1764. During the next five years the pulpit was filled by various supplies, but in 1769 the Rev. James Boyd became the settled minister. The present building, beautifully located on a ridge at the northwest side of the town, was erected in 1769, on a lot either purchased from or donated by John Harris in 1767. The church, as originally built, had the main entrance on the south side. The pulpit was in the center, on the north side, and was reached by a high flight of steps. The pews had high backs, and the floor was of brick. Parson Boyd was pastor of the church for nearly half a century, during which period it flourished greatly. He died in charge in 1814, and a large marble slab, supported by four stone pillars, marks the place of his interment in the graveyard of the church.

In the early days of this church it was no unusual thing to hold lotteries under authority of the State for the erection or repair of houses for worship, and during the time of the Rev. Mr. Martin the Assembly authorized the holding of a lottery for the purpose of raising £400 to repair the old wooden church and to build or repair the residence of the minister. The following is a copy of one of the lottery tickets:

NEWTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LOT-  
TERY. 1761.

No. 104. This ticket entitles the bearer to such Prize as may be drawn against its number if demanded within six months after the drawing is finished, subject to such deduction as is mentioned in the scheme.

[Signed.] JNO. DE NORMANDIE.

It was within the walls of the present church that some of the Hessian prisoners taken by Washington at the Battle of Trenton spent the first night of their captivity, and a story is told of an English officer being buried beneath its floor. To substantiate this, it is said that when digging the foundation for one of the gallery posts at the time the old church was remodeled, that human bones and military buttons were unearthed.

LIBRARY.

The only other institution now in Newtown which dates its organization back in the last century is the "Newtown Library." While the population of that period was of a very intelligent class, few families possessed more books than a Bible and perhaps a few other religious works, so the need of a library was early felt. The first meeting of which a record is preserved in the minutes was held at the house of Joseph Thornton, in Newtown, in August, 1760. The Thornton house was known at that time as the "Court Inn," and is the same now occupied by Mrs. E. Mitchell at the corner of Court street and Centre avenue. At this meeting the officers were elected to serve till the last Seventh-day of October next, the time fixed for the holding of the annual election and payment of annual dues. The books were to be kept at the house of Mr. Thornton, and

he was elected librarian. At the meeting on October 25th following, twenty-seven members each paid £1, as required by the rules of the association, and the first purchase of books, numbering sixty-two volumes, of which twenty were of history, was made soon after. In the spring of 1761, as Mr. Thornton then moved out of town and was no longer able to attend to the duties of librarian, the board of directors ordered the books to be kept at the house of David Twining, who then lived on his farm just south of the town, now owned and occupied by Cyrus Vanartsdalen, and David was appointed librarian. The library remained here from 1761 until 1788, a period of twenty-seven years, and David acted as director, treasurer and librarian. On account of the troubled condition of the country, the meetings of the directors were suspended from October, 1774, until October, 1783, a period of nine years. By this time the interest in the library had fallen off very much, and on September 27th, 1788, it was proposed to sell the books and divide the proceeds among the members, and six members were appointed to carry this project into effect. During the twenty-eight years of the library's existence, however, a new generation had grown up, and a number of the younger people expressed a desire to co-operate with the old members, keep the library intact, and add to its volumes and usefulness.

Accordingly, on November 10th, in 1788, the new library company met in the grand jury room in the Court House and an agreement was entered into by the old and new members to incorporate the library, and the incorporation was effected on March 27th, 1789, under the title of the "Newtown Library Company." The members then acting as the officers were named as the incorporators, and were as follows: Henry Wynkoop, Thomas Jenks, Francis Murray Samuel Benezet and Abraham DuBois, who were then directors, and William Lintor then treasurer. This movement gave new life to the institution, and at a meeting of the directors in December, 1791, the library was reported as containing 832 volumes, which were kept in the Court House building, and it was decided to print the constitution and by-laws, a catalogue of the books and a list of its members. From this time on the interest in the library was well maintained for a number of years.

COURT HOUSE.

The removal of the courts from Bristol to Newtown was agitated as early as 1717 and an act was passed on March 24th, 1717, authorizing Jeremiah Langhorne, Will Biles, Joseph Kirkbride, Thomas Wat M. D. and Abraham Chapman to purchase a piece of land at some convenient place in Newtown, in trust for the use of the courts and to build thereon a court house and a prison at an expense not to exceed £1000. The trustees accordingly purchased of Walley five acres of land on which the public buildings were shortly erected. The lot was part of 200 acres, located in 168



Israel Taylor, and had a front along the easterly side of Main, now State street (being the easterly line of the common lots), from what is now the north line of the Heilig estate southward 40 perches to the middle of Penn, then called Lower street; thence eastwardly 20 perches to a line 157½ feet eastward from the easterly side of Court street; thence northwardly 40 perches and westwardly 20 perches to the place of beginning.

The lot was laid out with a 15-foot wide alley on the three sides, north, south and east, and was subsequently divided into six lots, each having a front of 190 feet, and a depth, clear of the streets and alleys, of 142½ feet, and separated by streets 30 feet in width.

The public buildings occupied lot No. 1. The court house was a two-story stone building, and stood on the easterly side of the square where the old frame building on Court street belonging to the Heilig estate now stands. The court room was on the first floor, the main entrance was by double doors in the middle on the south, the judges were seated on a platform in a recess or bay window in the middle of the north side. There was a large fireplace and chimney at each end. The second story was fitted up for jury rooms; it had the old-fashioned hip roof and was surmounted by a small cupola with bell. Here the courts of the county were held from 1725 to 1813, a period of 88 years.

The first jail erected was at the northwest corner near where the drug store now stands, but it soon proved to be too small, and a new jail was erected immediately west of the court house and where the Heilig house, at present occupied by Dr. Crewitt, now stands, under an act of the Colonial Legislature of 1745, and the old jail was by order of the Council taken as a work house for prisoners and opened for that purpose in December, 1746.

The act providing for the removal of the court house to Newtown also provided for the holding of all the elections in the court house, and the elections for the whole county were held there until 1786.

In the report of the Bucks county courts to the Governor in 1730, I find that Elizabeth Thomas was tried for murder, that she pleaded not guilty, but the jury found manslaughter, and she was burnt in the and"—the usual punishment in those days.

Down to 1772 it was customary for the county officers to keep the records and public papers at their respective dwellings, but on March 21st, 1772, an act was passed ordering the erection of a strong fire-proof building of 12 by 16 feet inside dimensions, with walls two feet thick and covered by brick arch one foot in thickness, where the records were to be kept under a penalty of £300. This small building, the last of the county buildings on the court house square, is well remembered by the writer, as well as by many others now living, having been torn down as recently as 1873 by

Mr. Heilig, whose estate, as has been said, still owns the court house site. During the Revolution this small stone building was used as a magazine for storing powder and other military supplies, and was the treasury building robbed by the Doans in 1781. It was later used as a lock-up, iron store and horse stable.

After the close of the Revolutionary war there was soon a great revival of business, and the small building just described becoming insufficient to accommodate the county records, the large stone building on the opposite side of the street from the jail, and now occupied as offices by the writer, was erected by the county for office purposes in 1796. It is a very substantial building, having dressed stone on two fronts. The first floor was divided by 20-inch walls and a wide hall into four rooms; the two rooms on the south side were designed for offices and the two on the north side as vaults, and these latter were provided with iron shutters and iron window and door frames, several of which are still to be seen in place.

On the 9th of September, 1777, courts were first held in Newtown after the Oath of Allegiance was required under Act of Assembly of June 13th, 1777, when Henry Wynkoop, the presiding justice, delivered an able charge to the grand jury in keeping with the new order of things.

#### DURING THE REVOLUTION.

Located as Newtown was, between Philadelphia and New York, the county seat for a very large section of country, and on one of the main thoroughfares through the county, we would naturally expect it to be an important point during the Revolution; and such it was. Easy of access, central and back from the river, it was selected as a depot for supplies for the Continental army during the various campaigns in New Jersey.

It was also the headquarters of Washington from the 27th to the 29th of December, 1776, when he returned to Trenton to follow up his victory of the 26th. On the 27th he wrote as follows:

HEADQUARTERS, Newtown, Dec. 27th, 1776.  
To President of Congress: On the evening of the 25th inst. I ordered the troops intended for this service to parade back of McKonkey's ferry that they might begin to cross the river as soon as it grew dark, &c.

On the 28th he wrote from Newtown to Major General Heath, and on the 29th again to the President of Congress, as follows:

I am just setting out to attempt a second passage over the Delaware with the troops that were with me on the morning of the 26th, &c. Since transmitting a list of the prisoners, a few more have been discovered and taken in Trenton, among them a Lieutenant Colonel and Deputy Adjutant General, the whole amounting to about 1000.

There seems to be no reliable evidence that Washington was ever at Newtown except on the three days above mentioned. The building occupied by him stood on the site of the present dwelling on the farm of Alexander German, deceased, just across the creek on the westerly side of the town,



which property at that time belonged to the estate of John Harris, deceased. Before leaving Keith's on that memorable Christmas day, Washington sent his movable effects to Newtown as a place of safety in charge of his secretary, who found quarters in the old Harris mansion. It is said that on leaving the place Washington presented the family with a silver tankard, which, after being kept for many years, was finally converted into spoons. The writer distinctly remembers the tearing down of the old house, but has no recollection of the appearance of the historic structure.

Immediately after the battle of Trenton, on the afternoon of December 26th, the captured Hessian soldiers were hurried across the river and over to Newtown, where they were confined in the county jail, Presbyterian church and in several of the private houses. The officers, about 23 in number, were kept in the ferry house during the night of the 26th, and escorted to Newtown by Colonel Wheeldon on the 27th, where they were quartered at the inns. The officers were paroled on Dec. 30th and sent to Philadelphia, Lancaster and Baltimore. Four of the officers were invited by Washington to dine with him while he was in Newtown, while others called upon Lord Sterling, whose acquaintance they had made while he was a prisoner upon Long Island.

Lord Sterling, a prominent commandant of the forces under Washington, was a native of New York, and his true name was William Alexander. His ancestors came from Scotland, and he spent a large part of his fortune attempting to secure the title and estate of an earldom held by some of his ancestors in 1621, and to which he claimed to be the rightful heir. His efforts, however, were unsuccessful, though from courtesy he was always styled Lord Sterling, and his letters to Washington and the council were signed simply "Sterling." The stone house on State street now owned by Hannah Hibbs was at that time kept as an inn, and was known as the "Justices' House," because the justices of the court were usually entertained there, and here it was that Lord Sterling is supposed to have been when he received the visit from the Hessian officers on the 27th or 28th of December. While at Newtown Sterling wrote frequent letters to the Supreme Council of Safety at Philada., a few of which may be interesting:

NEWTOWN, January 4th, 1777.

I was ill with rheumatism before our first expedition to Trenton, but the fatigue and hardships I endured for 40 hours in the worst weather I ever saw rendered me unfit for further duty in the field. General Washington therefore placed me here to do the best I could to secure the ferries and upper part of the country against any surprise. I will do the best I can with the force I have to command. I have a number of prisoners from the enemy's army pouring in upon me (thank God), but tell me what I am to do with them; there is no room for them here. \* \* \* This is the first time I have been able to scrawl since I crossed the Delaware last. Most respectfully yours, STERLING.

Again, under date of January 6th, 1777, he wrote to the chairman of the Council, as follows:

Lieutenant Wilmot, of the British Light Horse, just brought in wounded. I shall send him on to "Four Lanes' End" [now Langhorne] to-morrow. There are a number of prisoners of war here, and more coming in. I should be glad to hear your opinion where it would be best to send them.

Under date of January 7th he wrote the secretary of Council as follows:

I shall send off to Philadelphia about 70 British prisoners to-morrow morning. General Washington has upwards of 200 more with him. James Reynolds and the other two deserters went to Philadelphia yesterday.

To give an idea of the extent of the capture by Washington and his army at Trenton, and of the poorly/equipped condition of his men, I quote a letter from Deputy Quartermaster General Clement Biddle to the Council of Safety:

HEADQUARTERS, Newtown, 28th December, 1776.

Sir: His Excellency General Washington has commanded me to send forward the prisoners taken at Trenton, to pass through Philadelphia to Lancaster, and I have sent them with a guard under the conduct of Captain Murray (an officer of the State lately released from New York), with directions to furnish them with provisions and quarters on the road. \* \* \* I have the pleasure to inform you that the prisoners amount to near 1000; that they have six brass field pieces, eight standards of colors and a number of swords and cartouch boxes taken in this happy expedition, are safely arrived at and near this place. If your honorable committee could by any means furnish shoes and stockings for our troops, it will be a great relief.

CLEMENT BIDDLE, D'ty Qr. Mr. Gen'l.

It will be noticed that this letter is dated "Headquarters, Newtown, December 28th, 1776."

It will be impossible to note more than very few of the important events which occurred at Newtown during the Revolutionary period. On February 23d, 1778, Washington wrote to President Wharton of the Council, as follows:

HEADQUARTERS, Valley Forge

Sir: The militia from the westward who have been detained by the badness of the weather have arrived at General Lacey's camp, and those from Northampton have I hope come in by this time. Their presence had become exceedingly necessary as the insolation of the disaffected in Philadelphia and Bucks counties had arisen to a very alarming height. They have seized and carried off a number of respectable inhabitants in those counties, and such officers of this army who fell in their way, among others Major Murray, of the 13th Pennsylvania Regiment, who was at Newtown with his family.

This raid upon Newtown was made on the night of February 18th, 1778, by the cavalry companies of Hovenden and Thomas, both Bucks county Tories, who captured a quantity of cloth designed for the army, and made prisoners of Major Murray, three other officers and 26 soldiers, besides killing and wounding more.

In July, 1781, Captain Claypole was ordered to receive recruits at Newtown. On September 11th, 1781, militia of Philadelphia, city and county, Chester, Bucks, Lancaster, Berks and Northampton, Light Horse of city and county, York and Cumberland, and two companies of artillery, were called into service and ordered to rendezvous at Newtown. On October 12th, 1781, General Lacey was ordered to discharge the militia at Newtown, and on the same date Paymaster Scott was sent there with £3000 to pay them off.

ROBBERY OF THE COUNTY TREASURY.



Probably no event which has ever occurred in the county has created as much excitement as the robbery of the county treasury at Newtown by a band of outlaws headed by the notorious Doan brothers, on the evening of October 22d, 1781. The Doans, as is well known, were the sons of respectable Quaker parents in Plumstead, but early in the struggle for independence espoused the cause of the Crown, and on account of their Tory principles and numerous robberies were declared "outlaws." John Hart was then county Treasurer and lived in the stone house on the west side of State street, now occupied by Thomas P. Hampton, at what was then known as "The First Hollow."

The outlaws were harbored by John Tomlinson, who then owned the large farm in Wrightstown now belonging to Mrs. Charles Williams, and it is here that the plans for the robbery were laid. John Atkinson, who carried on blacksmithing in a shop on the property now of Dr. Heston, was frequently called upon by the Doans and their companions to repair their guns, and it was he who kept them posted as to the movements of Treasurer Hart, the probable amount received by him from the various collectors, and when the treasury building was without a guard; and as compensation for his services he received a small portion of the stolen funds.

Moses Doan rode through the town in the early evening, and, finding the coast clear, he and his comrades surrounded Hart's house about 10 o'clock, made him prisoner, and took possession of the keys. With these they repaired to the little stone treasury near the court house and had no difficulty in securing all of the county funds contained therein, amounting to about £735 in specie and £1300 in paper.

The robbers carried their booty to an old log school house which stood just across the road from the Friends' meeting house at Wrightstown, and there divided it, giving to each participant 140 hard dollars and a share of the notes, which latter were divided by count without regard to value. They then dispersed, each going his own way.

Henry Wynkoop, Esq., then judge of the court, lost no time in informing the Supreme Executive Council of the robbery, and that body on October 27th issued a proclamation offering a reward of £100 in specie for each and every of the perpetrators of said robbery who shall be apprehended and convicted.

As a result, two of the party, Jesse Vickers and Solomon Vickers, were arrested, tried and convicted at Newtown, and sentenced to be hung; and on August 3d, 1782, on reviewing the case of Jesse Vickers by the Council, it was ordered that he be executed on the 7th inst., and that he be informed if he would make a full disclosure of his accomplices he would be pardoned. His confession soon followed, and his execution was again postponed until the 14th, and he was removed to Philadelphia jail. The confession of Solomon Vickers was

also obtained, and he and Jesse were both pardoned on September 10th, 1782.

As an outcome of these confessions, John Tomlinson, of Wrightstown, at whose house the robbery was planned, was arrested, tried, convicted and hung at Newtown, and buried on his own farm,—the stones marking the grave are still to be seen. Two of the Doan brothers were convicted and hung in Philadelphia, and it is said that their father, Joseph, walked from Philadelphia to Plumstead behind the cart which carried their dead bodies to his home in that township. Joseph, a third brother, was arrested, but broke jail at Newtown and fled to Canada, and their lands were confiscated and sold.

#### PROMINENT MEN.

Among the names of prominent persons who were identified with the history of Newtown during the last century was that of Judge Gilbert Hicks, great-grandfather of our present townsman, Isaac W. Hicks. He was born on Long Island, January 10th, 1720. When married he removed to a farm in Bensalem, presented to his wife as a wedding present by her father, erected buildings thereon and raised a family. On June 9th, 1752, only six years after coming into the province, he was appointed by the governor and council at Philadelphia one of the justices of the peace for Bucks county, and held the office until the Revolution; and on March 29th, 1776, John Penn, then governor, commissioned him and Hugh Hartshorne, Esq., to hold court for the trial of all crimes and offences committed by negroes, whether slave or free. He built the brick house in Langhorne opposite the hotel in 1763, and removed there. He was a man of superior mind and commanded the respect of all. Was chairman of a public meeting held at Newtown on July 9th, 1774, in pursuance of previous notice, when he made a short address explaining the object of the meeting as being to consider the injury and distress occasioned by numerous acts of oppression to the colonies which had been passed by the British Parliament, in which body the colonies were not represented. When, however, the British General Howe issued his proclamation, Judge Hicks seemed greatly impressed with the power of England, and while he condemned the injustice of Great Britain toward the colonies, he advised to postpone any overt resistance until the colonies should become stronger. Being conscientious in regard to the oath which he had taken on assuming office, he read Howe's proclamation in front of the court house at Newtown, and counseled his friends to pause before it was too late. Not that he favored Great Britain, but for the good of the colonies.

But the temper of the people was not in harmony with these sentiments, and those who heard him denounced him as a traitor, and the whole town was thrown into excitement. Judge Hicks returned to his home at "Four Lanes' End," where he was soon pursued by a company of horsemen, bent on making his arrest. He was, however, apprised of their coming in time to make his escape to the woods, and after



the storm had somewhat subsided he fled the country and spent the remainder of his days in Nova Scotia, supported by a pension from the British Government, while his property at Langhorne and in Bensalem was confiscated and sold by the State.

Isaac Hicks, familiarly known as "Old Squire Hicks," was son of Gilbert, the judge, and was more closely connected with the business history of Newtown during the last quarter of the last century and the first quarter of this than any other person. He was born on his father's Bensalem farm in 1748, and after acquiring such education as the times would afford, and reaching manhood, settled in Newtown. On June 6th, 1772, Richard Penn, then governor, issued four commissions to him:

1. As Justice of the Peace, and also assigning him as one of the Justices of the County Court.

2. Prothonotary or Principal Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas.

3. Clerk or Register of the Orphans' Court.

4. Recorder of Deeds; and three days later, on the recommendation of the Justices of the Court of General Quarter Sessions, he received a commission as clerk of that court, with charge of all its records.

He was also county surveyor and conveyancer, and filled all his positions of trust with general satisfaction until September, 1776, when the whole county was in a tumult on account of the Revolutionary struggle, and the excitement occasioned by his father's unfortunate action made it necessary to remove him from office and appoint new men.

On February 19th, 1777, it was resolved by the Council of Safety that Joseph Hart and Henry Wynkoop, Esqs., and Richard Gibbs be requested to repair immediately to the house of Isaac Hicks, late clerk of

the court for Bucks county, and take possession of all the public papers, books and records that may be in his possession, to clear out the office built by the county for the purpose of keeping the records, and place them all therein and make report if any be lost. Henry Wynkoop, Esq., to keep the keys. On February 22d, 1777, the committee reported to council that the records were all correct and papers deposited, and the "office to be cleared to-morrow."

'Squire Hicks then removed to "Four Lanes' End" and occupied the house recently vacated by his father, whose confiscated estates being sold at public auction, at the court house at Newtown, on August 24th, 1779, were bought by Isaac for £4030. He lived at "Four Lanes' End" until 1796, when, on January 2d of that year, he bought the property at the corner of State and Penn streets, Newtown, now known as the White Hall hotel property, and removed to the old frame house thereon, in which he lived until his death in 1836. He was naturally well qualified for business, and made the survey of the common lots when they were laid out in 1796. He was authority on all questions of boundaries, and always went

surveying on foot, even though the work were miles away. He was very erect in person, had white hair and carried a heavy cane, and as a justice he gave his decisions with dignity and impressiveness. He died at the age of 88 years and was buried in the Presbyterian graveyard at Newtown, where the stone which marks the spot is placed by the 'Squire's request nearly two feet below the surface of the ground. He is well remembered by many now living, as he walked about the town with his heavy cane and dressed in knee breeches.

Edward Hicks, son of Isaac the 'Squire, and a prominent minister in the Society of Friends, was born at Langhorne, Fourth month 4th, 1780. His mother died when he was very small and he was taken home by Elizabeth, the wife of David Twining, and lived there until he was old enough to go to a trade, when his father bound him to a coach painter at "Four Lanes' End." After he completed his apprenticeship he returned to Newtown, married, and established himself at coach painting. There is no doubt that the kindly religious teachings which he received while in the Twining home had much to do with the development of his strong and sensitive mind in the line of religious thought, in which he afterwards became so ardent a worker; but as his religious labors were confined to the present century, I am obliged to pass them over in this paper.

One of the most conspicuous figures in Newtown during the latter part of the 18th century and during the Revolutionary days was Col. Francis Murray. In 1784 he bought the large stone dwelling on Court street immediately opposite the court house and now owned by George Brooks, from Bernard Taylor, and lived there until his death in 1816. We find him becoming a member of the library company in 1774, one of its incorporators in 1789; on December 28th, 1776, a captain lately released from New York and conducting prisoners from Newtown to Philadelphia, and his name appears upon the list of officers and privates of artillery settled with at Newtown by the auditors of Bucks county on March 24th, 1781, as Lieut. Col. Francis Murray, late of the 13th Regt., Penna. Militia. He was a large owner of real estate in Newtown, and in September, 1783, purchased a confiscated farm of Joseph Doan's, of 108 acres, in Plumstead. On November 17th, 1783, he was appointed Lieutenant of Bucks county, was one of the trustees of the Newtown Commons in 1796 and of the Bucks County Academy in 1797, and one of the associate justices of the court in 1813. He died on November 30th, 1816, aged 84 years, and is interred in the Newtown Presbyterian graveyard.

#### SCHOOLS.

Although the population of Newtown prior to 1800 was few and the neighborhood very sparsely settled, the community was not without schools. The earliest school in the town of which we have any reliable record was that kept by Andrew McMinn, an Irish schoolmaster, who bought the lot



upon which the Temperance House now stands of Amos Strickland, on May 1st, 1772, and erected thereon the present buildings. Here he kept both a tavern and school. McMinn sold the property to Gen. Murray and bought No. 11 of the Common Lots, immediately opposite, on which was an old house that had been used for school purposes. Here McMinn lived and still carried on his school. There was a stone quarry upon the rear of the lot, and it is related of McMinn that whenever any one came for a load of stone from his quarry, he would lock up the scholars and go down and help load the stone. He was well remembered by the late Nicholas Willard.

As a further evidence of an appreciation of educational advantages by our citizens of one hundred years ago, no better proof is needed than the erection of the large three-story stone academy building in 1798. This building was after the style of the county offices of that date, with dressed-stone front, and very substantial. Prior to 1797 a lot part of the commons was conveyed by the trustees of the commons to certain persons for the erection thereon of an academy and free school, and the Bucks County Academy was incorporated by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, and the articles approved by Thomas Mifflin, Governor, on April 1st, 1797. Francis Murray, Thomas Jenks and others were appointed trustees to carry out the provisions of the Act. The new building was erected during the next year and school kept therein with more or less regularity, and more or less under the care and influence of the Presbyterian Church, for about fifty years following.

#### TEMPERANCE.

There was also an active movement in the cause of temperance during the last century, and as early as June 12th, 1746, we find a petition with thirty-one signers presented to the justices of the peace holding court in Newtown, "to suppress certain public houses which are public nuisances and very prejudicial to some of the neighbors. There are too many of them and they are not supplied with suitable conveniences to entertain travelers."

#### OLD BUILDINGS.

Among the oldest buildings in the town are those erected for hotels, or, as they were then styled, "inns." The very oldest of these is probably the old frame building on the easterly side of State street between Centre avenue and Mercer street, and known as the "Bird-in-Hand," from the old sign painted by Edward Hicks for Asa and Tamar Cary, representing a bird in a hand. It was built by George Welch, a Dutchman, in 1726 or '28, soon after the erection of the court house. It is still occupied as a dwelling, but is scarcely tenantable.

The "Court Inn," probably the next oldest of these inns at present standing, is, as before stated, on the southeast corner of Court street and Centre avenue. The old stone and frame part of this building was erected by Joseph Thornton in 1733. The

brick portion on the corner was built by his widow in 1757, while the stone addition on the east was erected by Josiah Ferguson in 1792. This old hostelry was patronized largely by those attending court, and hence its name. The newer portions have been remodeled within the past few years, and are now in good condition.

The third oldest of these old inns is probably the easterly part of the present "Brick Hotel." This building occupies the site of the "Red Lion Inn," a little old tavern which in 1760 was sold by the sheriff, together with a half acre of ground, as the estate of Joseph Walley, saddler, deceased, to Amos Strickland, for £40. At this time Strickland owned all the land north of Washington avenue to Frost Lane and as far as the bend in the road beyond the cemetery, and the Red Lion Inn was the most northerly building in town. In 1764 or '65 Strickland burned a kiln of bricks in his meadow, on what is known as the Phillips farm, just east of our present Lincoln avenue, and with them erected a large two-story hotel building on the former site of the little old inn, where he lived until his death in 1779, at which time all of his estate came into the hands of his son, Amos Strickland, Jr. The building then erected is the easterly part of the present Brick hotel, and has large rooms, high ceilings, broad windows, a wide hall with open stairway and beautiful old wooden arches, and must have been a grand structure in its day, and is still in excellent condition. Hessian officers were quartered here after the Battle of Trenton. The senior Strickland kept a number of horses, was fond of racing, &c. Washington avenue as far east as the bend was known as "Strickland's Lane," and here many exciting races were

witnessed at election times and other public occasions.

The "Justices' House," heretofore mentioned as the quarters of Lord Sterling while in Newtown, is very near the old "Bird-in-Hand," was built by Anthony Siddons in 1768, and is still in good repair.

The "Temperance House," as has been said, was built in 1772 by McMinn, the Irish schoolmaster, who sold it about 1796 to General Murray, and he rented it as a tavern as long as he lived. The license was taken away soon after the courts were removed to Doylestown in 1813, and has never been restored.

Such then is some account of the settlement and history of Newtown during the first century of its existence and of a few of the persons who were prominent in making that history. Very much, probably of equal or greater interest, has necessarily been omitted. May we of to-day not fail to remember that we are participants in the history of its second century.

In conclusion, I desire to acknowledge the valuable contributions to our local history made by our late townsman, Josiah B. Smith, deceased, from whose manuscript volumes I have obtained much information.



From,

*Intelligencer**Opinion B*Date, *Aug 21 96***GEN. ANDREW PICKENS.****The Services of a Bucks Countian in the Revolution.**

A Paper Read Before the Bucks County Historical Society by the Rev. D. K. Turner, of Hartsville, at the Meeting Near Newtown, July 21st, 1896.

Many of the officers and soldiers of the Revolutionary War displayed remarkable bravery and determination in battle, as well as fortitude and heroism in the camp and on the march. Their exploits should be treasured in our memories and often rehearsed, that we may properly realize our obligations to them for the priceless institutions we enjoy, which were secured for us by their toils and sufferings. Our liberties could never have been won without a conflict of arms. They must be baptised in blood. Great Britain would never have consented to release us from her sway unless she had discovered through a sanguinary struggle, that the American States knew what their rights were and had firmly resolved to maintain them.

Among those to whom we are indebted for rescue from the oppressions of the mother country, was Gen. Andrew Pickens. He was born in Bucks county, September 13, 1739, and it is well for this historical society to call up from the past, receding and growing more dim, his patriotic services, which aided in imparting life to the Nation when in its younger days it was in danger of being overwhelmed by the tyranny of an unnatural parent. The exact spot that gave him birth is lost in oblivion, the name of his family not being found in either the Register's or Recorder's offices of this county. He was of Huguenot descent, his ancestors having been driven from France by the revocation of the Edict of Nantz, which deprived them of the privilege of worshipping God in their own way. They first went to Scotland and after a period, with thousands of others, to the North of Ireland. Even there religious liberty was denied them by the Ecclesiastics of England, and after the lapse of a generation or two they came across the wide Atlantic to Penn-

sylvania, which was opened by Penn as a refuge for the persecuted and oppressed of all nations.

In this colony they remained till about 1745 or 1750, when Andrew's father was attracted by reports of the fertility and beauty of the valley of Virginia. Gathering into an available form his limited means, he took his young family in a rude wagon or on horseback through the wilderness to the neighborhood of the Shenandoah river, and located not far from where the town of Staunton was afterwards built. But his stay there was temporary. In 1752 he removed still further to the Southwest, to the vicinity of the Waxhaws in South Carolina, where land was cheap and likely to increase in value. The region was thinly settled. Large tracts were covered with the virgin forests. Game was then abundant, and Andrew, then a boy of 13 years became expert in the use of fire arms, and an accomplished horseman. He grew up to be above the medium height, and his frame was strong, well knit and capable of enduring great fatigue. Schools were few and widely scattered, and his means of education were limited. His knowledge of books was meagre, but he was endowed with a vigorous mind and possessed much shrewdness, sagacity and decision of character.

When the war between England and France occurred, in which this country was largely involved for a number of years previous to 1763, the Indians of South Carolina, Florida and Georgia were allies of the French. In 1761 the settlement of Long Cane was surprised by the Cherokees and well nigh exterminated; some escaped, but a large number of men were butchered or put to death by torture, and women and children carried away into slavery. Fort Loudon also in the mountainous regions of North Carolina, though it was surrendered to the savages by capitulation and ought to have been honorably treated, yet met with the same dreadful fate. In consequence of these and similar atrocities Lieut. Colonel Grant was sent against them with a considerable body of soldiers and among the officers was Pickens. The villages of the red men were captured and burned, and the warriors driven into the recesses of the Alleghenies. Francis Marion, afterwards General, was a volunteer in this expedition, and the two were here associated in a subordinate capacity, as they were during the Revolution in higher stations. In these successful struggles with the wily inhabitants of the forests Pickens formed habits of daring, watchfulness and endurance, and acquired a knowledge of the art of war which fitted him for the wider theatre of conflict with the hosts of Britain.

Among those who were fortunate enough to escape from Long Cane when it was sacked and burned by the aborigines was Ezekiel Calhoun. He made his way through the woods to the Waxhaws, Lancaster county, where Pickens resided, and the latter soon became acquainted with the family. He had a lovely daughter, Rebecca, a noted beauty, one of the belles of that region of country. It was natural that Andrew should be interested in the fair maid. Her estimable qualities won his admiration and his heart, and in due time he led her, a willing captive,



to Hymen's altar. The wedding was one of the most brilliant social events of the time in that part of the State.

For much valuable information in regard to the private life of Gen. Pickens I am indebted to John F. Calhoun, Esq., of Clemson College, S. C., from whom I received the following: "In an old book of William Calhoun, Esq., an uncle of Mrs. Pickens, beginning in 1762, in his own writing, are records of several marriages, which ceremonies tradition says he performed, being justice of the peace, and ministers in those days were not always available. Among these marriages are two Pickens. 'Andrew Pickens and Rebecca Calhoun were married ye 19th day of March, A. D. 1765. William Bole and Margaret Pickens were married ye 7th day of January, in ye year of our Lord, 1766.'"

One of Rebecca's brothers was Hon. John Ewing Calhoun, who was a member of the U. S. Senate from South Carolina, and died in 1801 soon after the commencement of his term in that high office. Hon. John C. Calhoun, the eminent statesman and advocate of the rights of the several States of a later period, was the son of Patrick Calhoun, a brother of Mrs. Pickens. He was her nephew, and was doubly related to her, as he married her niece, the daughter of Senator John Ewing Calhoun, his first cousin.

When peace was declared between England and France, in 1763, Mr. Calhoun, Pickens' father-in-law, returned to his home at Long Cane, which was in the southwestern part of South Carolina, near where Abbeville now stands, the Indians having retreated to their former haunts in Georgia. The next year, 1764, Andrew followed his wife's relatives and located permanently in the district, which was noted as the birthplace, 18 years later, of his nephew, the great nullifier. Here the young hunter and soldier en-

gaged in agriculture and saw a large number of "olive plants grow up round his table," while the course of the British Parliament toward the American colonies was gradually exhausting the patience of the people, and preparing them to demand their freedom, though they should be compelled to enforce their claim in the stern tones of war.

Captain Pickens was opposed to the harsh and unjust measures of the government across the Atlantic. Taxation levied against their will upon those who had no voice in the legislation that imposed it, was in his view tyrannical and ought to be resisted. His opinions on the subject were not entertained by all his neighbors. Indeed many of them were warmly attached to the crown, and shrank with aversion from resistance to its behests. Men on both sides of the question formed themselves into military companies. The matter was not only discussed with acrimony and bitter party strife, but warfare raged between troops composed of those who lived in the same districts and were intimately acquainted. In no part of the original thirteen States did this peculiarity exist to the same extent. In most other sections of the confederation the great majority of the people were united in their desire for independence. But in the Southeast many clung to the authority their ancestors had obeyed and took pride in defending it by the

sacrifice of their time, their substance and their blood.

The principal citizens of Charleston favored Congress, as they often differed on fiscal measures with the Governor appointed by Parliament. A considerable proportion of the planters in the interior, however, were either lukewarm or adhered to the King, and it was in the highest degree important that they should be induced to cast their lot with the advocates of freedom.

In 1775 the Council of Safety selected Hon. William Henry Drayton and Rev. William Tennent, a grandson of Rev. William Tennent, founder of Log College, to repair to the western districts of the colony, explain the causes of the dispute between America and England, and persuade the undecided to join the patriots. Before the delegation reached the scene of their efforts, some of the most fervent loyalists went through the region and stirred up their friends and sympathizers to new zeal and activity for the monarchy, and it was for a time doubtful whether the Commissioners would not be compelled to retire unheard and unhonored. At this juncture Captain Pickens took a bold stand for his native land. He was widely known and greatly respected throughout the Southwest, and possessed the confidence of all classes. As soon as his voice was lifted against royal usurpations, the delegates were more cordially received, their addresses were listened to, and multitudes were won from apathy or hostility to the flag of the free.

About this time he erected a block house near his own residence not merely for the protection of his own family, but as a place of refuge for the inhabitants when attacked by hostile bands, and many gathered there in seasons of alarm. It proved to be a centre, to which patriots resorted for consultation on plans for the common welfare, and from which they went forth armed to resist invasion.

During four years after the Declaration of Independence Capt. Pickens was often engaged in fighting with Indians and loyalists, who co-operated with British forces, and was unshaken in his attachment to the Union amid the most aggravating and desperate warfare. Even before that event he had unsheathed his sword, for he was in the first battle of Ninety-six, November, 1775, a conflict seldom referred to. Col. Andrew Williamson, commander of the Whigs, had five hundred men on a block-fort, and was besieged by Col. Joseph Robinson, who was at the head of 2000 British. The numerical advantage was so largely on the side of the latter, that the fort was obliged to capitulate after a brave defense of three days. The Americans lost one killed and eleven wounded, and the British thirty killed and fifteen wounded. Captain Pickens was one of those who were selected to arrange the terms of surrender, and they were faithfully observed by the Americans, but with their usual Punic treachery were violated by the British.

In 1777 Captain Pickens was appointed Colonel and assigned to the command of a regiment. In 1779 the Council of Safety in South Carolina raised two regiments for the defense of the State. Candidates











for Colonel were Robert Cunningham, James Mayson and Moses Kirkland. Mayson was the favored applicant, when the others, stung with disappointment and jealousy, went over to the Tories. United with many sympathizers they assembled 700 men, liked the royal colors and gave the command to Colonel Boyd. Colonel Pickens, prompt to seize every favorable opportunity, soon attacked him and forced him to retreat. Colonel Dooly with 100 patriots from Georgia now joined Pickens and yielded to him the direction of the whole body amounting to 400. Thus strengthened they pursued Boyd rapidly and overtook him on the banks of Kettle creek in Georgia. The enemy had just shot down some beeves, and were about to enjoy themselves with better fare than usual. Col. Pickens divided his forces into three parts, for Col. Dooly, Col. Clarke and himself, and moved to the onset without delay. The Tories were taken somewhat by surprise. Their leader, Boyd, was shot early in the action. His troops gave way before the impetuous onslaught of the ardent friends of liberty, fell back through masses of cane, and plunged through the creek to the opposite bank. Here they rallied on rising ground and fought desperately. But Pickens urged his soldiers on with irresistible resolution and gained a complete victory. Not more than 30 of the 700 arrayed against him reached Augusta. This engagement at Kettle creek, though the number of forces was not large, had a most important effect upon the state of feeling in the country. It was a staggering blow to the Tories and subsequently their sun ceased to be in the ascendant. Before it they had been elated with the idea, that their cause was sure to triumph. After it they began to suspect that the red coats were not invincible and to hesitate about joining their ranks.

Col. Pickens was with Gen. Lincoln at the battle of Stone Ferry, ten miles from Charleston, in 1779, and had his horse killed under him. With Marion and Sumpter he repeatedly opposed Col. Tarleton's brigade and other bodies of British and Royalists, often with success, though the enemy had been heavily reinforced from England. After the American army retreated from Camden towards the North their jubilant adversaries claimed that the rebellious Carolinas were subdued. But the spirit of most of the people was unconquered, and the cruelties and bad faith of Cornwallis and his officers exasperated the patriots to the highest degree. The English assumed that the South was vanquished, because they held Charleston and some other towns, and regarded all that approved the Federal government as rebels, guilty of treason and deserving death, who were to be shot wherever found, and their houses rifled and consumed. They ravaged and destroyed plantations, carried off the inhabitants prisoners and made no account of violating their most sacred promises.

Major William Cunningham collected some Loyalists and went far to the westward of American forces where he could not be readily interfered with and laid waste everything within his reach. Not

content with the mendish work by day, he visited houses at night and subjected their inmates to treatment worthy only of savages. Capt. Turner, a Union man, held possession of a house with twenty armed followers and bravely defended it till their ammunition was exhausted, when they surrendered, on assurance that they should be used honorably as prisoners of war. No sooner was this done than they were butchered in cold blood. Soon after the same gang attacked a small body of Federal militia in the district of Ninety-six. The house in which they made their headquarters was set on fire, and they were under the necessity of yielding to superior numbers, when Col. Hayes and Capt. Daniel Williams were hung to the pole of a haystack. This broke and let them fall to the ground. Cunningham, in a fit of rage, hacked them and others to pieces with his sword till he was tired, and then told his men to kill every one they wished. Fourteen were slaughtered in this way, while but two fell in the action.

These are only specimens of a course which was pursued by the minions of the King for several years, and instead of quenching the flame of liberty it fanned it to more intense heat. Lovers of freedom and friends of the National welfare flocked to the standard of Independence and were fortified in their determination never to abandon the contest till those who practiced injustice, cruelty and tyranny were driven from their shores.

In 1779 Col. Pickens and a small band of militia were attacked at Tomasse by Cherokees, who were ten times their number. The savages fought desperately with the tomahawk and rifle four hours. But the Colonel directed his men to reserve their fire till the red-skins were within twenty-five yards, to lie low in the grass, and rise to discharge their pieces two at a time, and to take accurate aim. Nearly every shot took effect, and the dark eyed foe were stunned and sent back by their constant losses in rapid succession, till they lost heart and fled. Had not Pickens met them with shrewdness and cool courage superior to their own, his whole company would have been scalped.

In consequence of the larger number and splendid equipment of the British the American General Morgan in 1781 retreated to the edge of North Carolina. Near an enclosure, which was used for collecting and marking cattle of different owners, he was overtaken by Col. Tarleton, and the battle of the Cowpens, as it was called, took place. In this engagement Col. Pickens commanded the volunteers from Georgia and the Carolinas, who constituted a majority of all the patriot troops present. Gen. Morgan, sensible of his own numerical inferiority and of the important advantage, which artillery gave the enemy, was at first inclined to avoid fighting. Many of his officers likewise urged him to retire before almost certain disaster. But Col. Pickens said the retreat had continued long enough. Something must be done to encourage the soldiers and patriot citizens. It was expedient in his opinion that they should fight, for its moral effect upon the nation. His view at length prevailed. With more than 400 militia he was posted in advance to meet the



set of the foe. Col. Howard with 300 Continentals formed the second line some distance back; and Lieut. Col. Washington with about 100 dragoons was in the rear out of sight, as a reserve. Pickens ordered his men not to fire till the British were within forty or fifty feet of them. Tarleton was at the head of 1100 regular troops, who were confident of an easy victory. They rushed forward, as soon as they came near, with shouts, but were received with so heavy and well directed a fire from the volunteers, that they hesitated, but soon pressed on, and forced Pickens' men to retreat; which they did in good order and reformed on the right. Col. Howard had to fall back likewise; when Col. Washington dashed up to the rescue with his cavalry, and stayed the advance of the enemy. Howard rallied his light infantry and turned upon the British, who supposed the day was already won, with fixed bayonets. Just at this point of time, when victory seemed wavering in the balance, Col. Pickens brought to the charge his militia, who a second time poured a storm of leaden hail upon the foe; this changed their bright expectations into dismay; they broke and fled. Coming to 250 English cavalry, who had not been engaged, they communicated a panic to them and they disappeared in the distance. Confusion and terror seized the ranks of the discomfited infantry, and when assured that if they would surrender they should be well treated, they laid down their arms. One battalion and two light infantry companies gave up their colors to Col. Pickens and his militia. More than 300 of the British were killed and 500 taken prisoners. Two cannons and a large number of muskets, horses and baggage wagons fell into the hands of the Americans. This victory was snatched, as it were, from the jaws of defeat, largely by the coolness of Pickens and his men, who reformed their disordered columns, in the midst of an engagement, and renewed the contest, after being compelled to retreat, a thing which was unexampled with militia before in the history of the war. For his noble conduct on this occasion Congress voted to Col. Pickens a handsome sword, and he was commissioned Brigadier General by Gov. Rutledge. David Ramsey in his work on the Revolution remarks, that the repulse of Tarleton at Cowpens "did more essential injury to the British interest than was equivalent to all the preceding advantages he had gained."

In September, 1781, Gen. Pickens with Marion commanded the militia at the battle of Eutaw Springs. The field was hotly contested for four hours, and Pickens was severely wounded in the breast. His life was preserved by the bullet striking the buckle of his sword belt, and he was caught as he fell by an officer of the Maryland line.

The same year by the enterprise of Marion, Sumpter, Pickens, Morgan and others, the British, who had for a time overrun large portions of the Carolinas, were forced back toward the sea coast, and held no important post except Ninety-six and Augusta. The latter place—Augusta—was under the surveillance of Gen. Pickens and Col. Clarke with militia. On the 20th of May they were joined by Lieut. Col. Lae, when operations were commenced against the fortifications. One after another the out-

works were taken, and in two weeks the garrison of 300 capitulated. They were honorably treated, though their commander, Col. Brown, had himself hanged thirteen American prisoners, and given over citizens of Georgia to the Cherokees to be tortured to death with fiendish cruelty. He was sent to Savannah for detention, and would perhaps have been shot on the way by persons enraged at his inhumanity, if he had not been protected by an armed escort furnished by Gen. Pickens.

At the siege of Ninety-six Joseph Pickens, a brother of the General, commanded a company, and was fatally wounded, as he was reconnoitering the fort. Another brother, taken prisoner by the Tories, was given over to the Indians, who scalped and tortured him for their amusement, as they were going through their hideous dances, many of the Tories being present.

Col. Tarleton was at one time scouring through the interior of South Carolina, when he was pursued by General Pickens and Col. Lee, who came upon a separate body of 250 of his men. The latter, not knowing that Americans were in that vicinity, mistook them for royalists, and as they were being cut to pieces by a heavy fire, cried out, "God save the King!" but soon discovered their error, and were all killed, wounded, or made prisoners.

Loyalists incited the Indians of Georgia to act with the British and commit outrages on the scattered settlements of the frontier. To put an end to their depredations, General Pickens gathered 400 militia, had them mounted on horseback, and supplied with pistols and short sabres made by the blacksmiths of the country. Advancing into the forests and everglades, where the savages lived, he destroyed thirteen of their towns, slew 40 of them and took 50 prisoners. So well were his measures taken, that not one of his own men was killed, only 2 were wounded, and he did not expend three pounds of ammunition. The reds, not being thoroughly subdued, he made a similar expedition against them in 1782 with like success. It was not his preference to make forays against Indian towns. He was naturally human and justified himself in his course by the necessity of defending the lives and property of his countrymen. The fierce warriors of the wilderness must realize the valor and courage of their white neighbors, and the danger of lifting the rifle and tomahawk against them. When this lesson was thoroughly taught them, by Gen. Pickens and his followers, they became peaceable. He was one of the commissioners appointed to conclude a treaty, which was made with them at Hopewell, the place where he resided, and through which largely by his influence a wide tract, containing the counties of Pickens, named for him, Anderson, Greenville, and Oconee was ceded to South Carolina. Rev. Dr. Geo. Howe in his history of the Presbyterian Church in South Carolina, speaking of this treaty, says, "that 'four tribes, Creeks, Cherokees, Choctaws and Chickasaws, encamped around the old General, each having a separate encampment.' They highly esteemed the hero as a brave enemy, whose hostility was to be feared, and on whose honesty, justice, wisdom and integrity they could rely when he was their friend."



They called him Long Knife. During Washington's administration the President requested him to come to Philadelphia that he might consult with him upon proper measures for the civilization of the Southern Indians. In 1791 he was appointed major general of the militia of his State, which had been newly organized. He was also one of the commission instituted to determine the boundary between South Carolina and Georgia, and was employed in all the negotiations with the southern natives till he retired from public. A member of the Legislature repeatedly, he was elected to the convention at which was framed the State Constitution. In 1794 he was chosen a member of Congress, but declined a re-election and subsequently served again several terms in the Legislature.

In a private letter, which I received yesterday from L. M. Pickens, Esq., of Elberton, Ga., a great-grandson of General Pickens, is the following in regard to the journey of his ancestor to Philadelphia when he went to Congress:

"At that time there were neither railroads nor stage coaches; all traveling was done on horseback. Picture then to yourself a man, who is approaching his three score years, of martial figure and dignified demeanor, mounted on a spirited milk white Andalusian, whip in hand and holsters filled with a brace of pistols, the silver mountings of which glittered in the sunlight. A three-cornered hat, from beneath which was silver-gray hair, put smoothly back and tied in a queue, an undress military coat, ruffled shirt and fire top boots with massive silver spurs. Following at a little distance on a stout draft horse is his African attendant, Pompey, in livery of blue with scarlet facings, carrying a ponderous portmanteau, with a consequential and dignified air, showing in every movement the pride of a body servant of his revered master. Paint this in your mind's eye and you have before you a gentleman of the 18th century with his servant on his way to Congress. Such was General Andrew Pickens as he passed through our village in 1791."

When the war of 1812 between the United States and Great Britain Britain was about to commence his fellow citizens requested him to be a candidate for election as Governor, but he declined, saying that the office ought to be in younger hands than his.

General Pickens was a member and elder and one of the founders in 1797 of the Presbyterian Church of Hopewell, near the residence in which he lived many years, and continued in the eldership till his death, having been a firm believer in the Christian religion from his youth.

In person he was tall, erect and powerfully built, and uniformly enjoyed good health. His features were strongly marked, but suffused with the light of an able mind and a benevolent heart. In planning military movements he was cautious, shrewd and sagacious; in camp, watchful and rigid in discipline, and in battle cool, prompt and fearless. S. M. Pickens, Esq., says, "He was one of the few officers who never drew a cent of pay for his Revolutionary services, as the roll of the comptroller's office shows." He also states that "the General held the first county court, that sat under the new

laws near Abbeville Court House, and his son, Gov. Andrew Pickens, then a boy of five years old, drew the first jury."

The General had a large family of five or six daughters and three or four sons. One of his sons, Andrew, held a commission as Colonel in the U. S. Army in 1812, and in 1816 was elected Governor of South Carolina. A son of the latter, Francis K. Pickens, was a member of Congress ten years, appointed Minister to Russia by President Buchanan, and just before the late war with the South was chosen Governor of South Carolina.

In the last part of his life General Pickens moved from the vicinity of Abbeville eighteen or twenty miles northwest toward the frontier, where he had a large, commodious mansion, which he called "Tomassee," a name borrowed from the Indians. Possessed of a handsome property and a fair income he desired nothing more. His home was always the seat of abundant hospitality, and he was visited almost constantly by relatives, friends and acquaintances and by distinguished strangers from a distance. His death occurred August 11, 1817, in the 78th year of his age, and his remains were carried to the graveyard of the stone church of Hopewell, near his former residence, and laid beside those of his beloved, honored and devoted wife, who had passed away a few years previously. He was one of those noble soldiers and enlightened patriots, of whom Bucks county may well be proud to have it said, "That man was born here."

It is not exactly germane to the subject of this paper, but it may not be amiss to mention that John F. Calhoun, Esq., of Fort Hill, S. C., in one of the letters I received from him, says, "I have had a gavel made for the use of the National Democratic Convention, which will assemble to-morrow (two weeks ago). The body of the gavel is red cedar from a tree that grew in the yard near the mansion of John C. Calhoun, in which I am now residing. This cedar is very ingeniously and beautifully inlaid with eighteen different varieties of wood. These with the handle make twenty varieties of wood all grown at Fort Hill, the old home of John C. Calhoun. A silver plate is attached, on which is engraved, "From the home of John C. Calhoun." After the adjournment of the convention the gavel is to be presented to the Presidential nominee of the party."

Whether the gavel was used as designed I have not been informed.

From, *Intelligencer*

*Doylestown PA*

Date, *Sept 17. 1896*



# THE PRIDE OF BUCKS.

## A Sketch of the 104th Pa. Volunteers.

The Organization of the Regiment at Doylestown—Episodes of Life at Camp Lacey on the Old Exhibition Grounds and Toll and Danger in the Field.

The 104th Regiment, Pa. Vols., the pride of Bucks county during the dark days of the Rebellion, was organized by authority given Col. W. W. H. Davis, of Doylestown, by the Secretary of War, to raise a regiment of infantry and a six gun battery to serve for three years or during the war.

A meeting was accordingly called in the Court House on Friday evening, August 30, 1861. It was well attended and much enthusiasm was exhibited and before adjournment 40 young men had volunteered for service in defense of the Union. Other meetings were held throughout the county and considerable excitement was manifested. In less than a week's time the first company was full and mustered in at Clemens' Hall, on September 6th, and was called the "Young Guard," with Edward L. Rogers as captain.

The exhibition grounds were selected as the site for the camp, and it was named "Camp Lacey," in honor of Brigadier General John Lacey, of Bucks county, of Revolutionary fame. Camp and garrison equipage, and quartermaster's and commissary stores, were on the ground by September 12th. By the 13th the enlisted men began to arrive, and that evening the train brought up a number of men for the battery.

There were several offers of companies from a distance, but it was desired to make this a Bucks county regiment and all were rejected except one from Reading and one from Philadelphia.

Recruits poured in rapidly and before the end of September the whole ten companies were in camp.

A strict and pretty thorough system of instruction was established in camp, until by the time they were ready to march there were few regiments which enter the service better drilled and better grounded in all the essential movements and duties that belong to the school of the soldiers.

By October 25th the aggregate number of men in camp was 1070, and ten days later had increased to 1135, the battery numbering 140 men.

The regiment was given the name of the "Ringgold Regiment," the number not being given until some time after its organization.

The field and staff officers were as follows: W. W. H. Davis, of Doylestown, Colonel; John W. Nields, of West Chester, Lieutenant Colonel; John M. Gri, of Philadelphia, Major; Thompson D. Hart, of Philadelphia, Adjutant; James D. Hendrie, Doylestown, Quartermaster;

William Allen Peck, of Phoenixville, Surgeon; William T. Robinson, of Hatboro, Assistant Surgeon; Rev. William R. Gries, of Doylestown, Chaplain; Edmund A. Wallazz, of Philadelphia, Sergeant Major; Robert Holmes, Doylestown, Quartermaster Sergeant; John M. Rogers, Doylestown, Commissary Sergeant; John Hargrave, Doylestown, Principal Musician; Joseph Winner, Philadelphia, Principal Musician; Michael E. Jenks, Newtown, Wagon Master.

The commanders of the several companies were: Co. A, Edward L. Rogers, Doylestown; Co. B, James R. Orem, Doylestown; Co. C, William M. Marple, Warminster; Co. D, Jacob Swartzlander, Doylestown; Co. E, George T. Harvey, Doylestown; Co. F, Alfred Marple, Attleborough; Co. G, John E. Corcoran, Upper Black's Eddy; Co. H, William F. Walters, Reading; Co. I, Harry P. Duncan, Philadelphia; Co. K, Henry Y. Pickering, Newtown.

The regiment made two excursions while encamped at Doylestown—one to a Union mass meeting at Danborough and another to a Union festival at Hartsville, by which the men got practical experience in marching.

On October 21st the ladies of Doylestown presented the regiment with a handsome silk flag, costing \$145. The presentation speech was made by the Rev. Jacob Bellville, of Hartsville, at Camp Lacey. Col. Davis received the flag and delivered it to Color Sergeant Laughlin. The battle-stained and tattered flag is now preserved in a glass case in the Court House, and will be one of the interesting mementoes of the reunion.

A second flag was received by the regiment from the State, and it was presented by Governor Curtin in person at the encampment on October 23th. Both occasions were largely attended by residents of the county and adjoining country, and the camp grounds were fairly alive with people. After the presentation of the flag by Governor Curtin, Rev. Silas M. Andrews, D. D., of Doylestown, presented each officer and man with a New Testament on behalf of the Bucks County Bible Society.

The first man died while the regiment was at Camp Lacey, and the first blood was drawn. Joseph B. Smith, of Richland township, a member of Co. D, died of epilepsy, and a private of Co. A, while attempting to take French leave, was shot by a vigilant sentinel belonging to the battery, but the wound was not serious.

While at Doylestown two female nurses joined the regiment, Mrs. Leedon and Miss Emiline Sibbitt, both of Buckingham. One had a husband and the other a brother in the ranks. They accompanied the regiment to Washington and remained until it was ordered to the field, rendering valuable service in nursing the sick.

The regiment was ordered to move the 6th of November, 1861, and at 3.30 in the morning the camp was awakened by the reveille, and in another hour the regiment was on the march to the station. At Philadelphia they were received with cordial greetings along the streets and dined at the Volunteer Refreshment Saloon, after which they took the cars for Washington. The next day they arrived



at the Nation's Capital and got dinner at the "Soldiers' Rest." The Colonel immediately reported to General Casey.

It was sometime after dark when the regiment arrived at the camping grounds on Kalorama Heights, just back of Georgetown, and bivouached on the ground wrapped in their blankets. The night was so cold the water froze in their canteens.

A week after they went into camp here Durrell's Battery was detached and sent to the artillery camp and never rejoined the regiment.

On November 11th the 104th, with the 52d Pa., 56th N. Y. and 11th Maine, were organized into a Provisional Brigade, of which Col. Davis was placed in command as senior colonel, and a few days after was organized as a Permanent Brigade by General McClellan.

The first pay received by the men was on December 4th, 1861, and \$3000 were sent to the Doylestown National Bank by them to be paid to their families on checks.

It being evident the brigade would stay in Washington all winter, barracks were erected upon recommendation of Col. Davis, and called "Carver Barracks," after Lieutenant Carver of the 104th, who superintended their erection. When vacated in the spring the government fitted them up as a general hospital and then called "Carver General Hospital."

From the time the 104th reached Washington until it took the field in the spring it lost, by death and discharge, thirty-seven men.

On the 13th of February, upon a call for ten men from each company for service upon gun boats on the western waters, that number was selected from a large number who volunteered. These men never returned to the command. On March 1st, the 104th, Tidball's Battery and a command of Rush's Lancers were detailed under command of Col. Davis, as escort at General Lander's funeral.

The division left the camp at Washington and took up the march to the seat of war on the peninsula. March 29th, 1862, with great enthusiasm among the troops and reached Alexandria that night. The next day they embarked on board the steamer "Constitution" for Fortress Monroe and encamped at Hampton.

The army commenced the march to Yorktown and in the siege of that town, which soon opened, was encamped in an old tobacco field, made into a mud hole by the recent rains, but subsequently removed to a beautiful grove of small pines on a dry sandy ridge.

Col. Davis was relieved of the command of the brigade by General Henry M. Nagle, April 23d. After the enemy had evacuated Yorktown on the night of May 3d the 104th, with two pieces of artillery and a squadron of regular cavalry was ordered to make a reconnaissance towards Grove's Wharf, on the James River. No trace of the enemy was found and on their return the regiment joined in the movement up the Williamsburg road. Word being received that Hooker was hotly engaged and in need of support, the brigade was ordered forward, but was subsequently ordered to return and support Hancock. The 104th, however, did not reach the position designed until too late to be en-

gaged.

Latter the regiment was directed to move toward Fort Magruder, halt in that vicinity and await orders. The next march was to Fort Kent Court House, a distance of twelve miles. On the 17th of May the troops pitched their tents near Baltimore Cross Roads, and on the 19th marched in the rain and heavy roads to Despatch Station. The next morning the regiment received orders to reconnoitre the position of the enemy toward the Chickahominy. The 104th was sent forward and deployed as skirmishers along the stream, and in a few moments the crack of a rifle announced they were engaged with sharpshooters. A rebel shell ranged along so close to the heads of the men that many of them would have been killed if they had not been ordered to sit down. The situation was an embarrassing one for young troops, but they behaved well.

May 21st the 104th was ordered to cross the river and go on picket, and the engineers were employed in rebuilding the burnt bridge. On the 22d they were ordered for reconnaissance toward Seven Pines, together with the 52d and 85th Pa., and 85th and 93th N. Y.

A lively skirmish took place at Savage's Station, in which the loss was slight, while that of the enemy was severe.

The morning report, on May 27th, showed 31 officers and 655 enlisted men for duty, a reduction of 151 men in less than seven weeks, all by disease, except about half a dozen.

The picket line was advanced to a point five miles from Richmond, and on the 29th was moved to Nine Mile road. The night of May 30th will long be remembered by the men on account of the storm that prevailed previous to their first regular engagement.

The men were lolling about in the shade of the trees, with no expectation of a battle on the morning of the 31st, but shortly after 12 o'clock an aide rode into camp and ordered the regiment under arms immediately. The battle of Fair Oaks commenced about one o'clock and continued two days. The 104th opened the battle and was the first to receive the shock of the enemy. Casey's division, to which the 104th was attached, sustained the brunt of the battle at the outset and suffered a loss of 1700 men, one-third of the entire casualties of that bloody day. In this battle Col. Davis was wounded in the left elbow and a spent ball struck him on the left breast. Major Gries, Captains Corcoran and Swartzlander, Lieutenant Ashenfelter and Quartermaster Hendrie were also wounded, Major Gries mortally.

The fighting the next day was slight, and did not reach the position occupied by the 104th. While encamped at Bottom's Bridge Lieutenant Colonel Neilds, who had been absent on account of disability from stroke, returned and assumed command, relieving Captain Rogers. Col. Davis rejoined his regiment July 31st at Harrison's Landing, although not quite recovered from the wound received at Fair Oaks.

The brigade sailed from Fortress Monroe with sealed orders on December 28th, and their destination proved to be Beaufort, N. C. After a brief stay here, Col. Davis was placed in command and the corps transferred to Hilton Head, S. C.,



designed to act, in conjunction with the force already there, against Charleston. As the naval forces were not ready to commence operations against the city on their arrival, they were placed in camp on Saint Helena Island. July 3d the 104th and 52d, with ten days' rations were moved to Folly Island, where the land forces were concentrating. On the afternoon of the 9th Davis moved up to James Island and when all were landed after dark the command was formed and moved forward, the 104th in advance, the object being to seize and hold the bridge at the end of the causeway. The bridge was possessed without opposition, but a rebel party was aroused and fired a volley upon the bridge, on which were General Terry, Col. Davis and Major Rogers, which was replied to. The fire soon subsided without assault. Soon the heavy guns of Gilmore, in an attack on Morris Island, was heard, and before night it was announced that he had been successful and was in possession of the southern part of the Island. Subsequently the brigade was transferred to Morris Island and laid in the trenches for twenty-four hours. Preparations were then made for an assault on Fort Wagner, and remembering the fate of those in the previous assault the men wrote letters to their friends at home, left valuables with their comrades with instructions for their disposal, and nerved themselves to meet the worst heroically. At the appointed hour they entered the works and made their way to the front; but as they passed along the rumor spread that the fort had been evacuated. A volunteer was sent out to verify the report and soon declared it true.

No sooner was Morris Island in possession of the Union forces than the work was commenced of putting it in a complete state of defense. Here was erected the famous "Swamp Angel."

From January 17th to April 20th, 1864, Col. Davis was in command of all the troops on Morris Island.

On Sunday, June 19th, 1864, a private of the 41st New York was shot for desertion, in the presence of the whole garrison, the shooting party being detached from the 104th. July 1st the regiment embarked for North Edisto and from there were ordered to march to Charleston but the order was subsequently countermanded. On this march Surgeon Robinson got separated from the brigade and was captured by the enemy.

The 6th of July while out reconnoitring on John's Island Col. Davis was wounded by the fragment of a shell, losing the fingers of his right hand and lacerating the limb, but a field glass which he held was uninjured.

In November the brigade was ordered to join the army of the Potomac and was stationed between the Appomattox and the James. In the assault upon the works in front of Petersburg, April 3d and 4th, 1865, the regiment participated, and upon the rout of the enemy followed in pursuit as far as Chesterfield Station. From this point it returned to Petersburg, when it was ordered to Fortress Monroe, and, after a halt of four days, to Norfolk. Before leaving Washington, in September, 1865, to return home and receive their discharge, by a vote of the enlisted men, to whom the fund belonged, and by consent of the Secretary of War, a council of administration, of

whom Col. Davis was at the head, was authorized to appropriate \$1600 of the \$2000 accumulated by the regiment by a system of economy in the management of the baking, for the erection of a monument to the memory of those who had fallen. This monument was erected in Doylestown and dedicated with appropriate ceremonies May 30, 1863. Major General W. H. Emory delivering the address.

During the service of the regiment 43 enlisted men were killed in action; 21 died of wounds received; 69 died of disease; 31 were discharged on account of wounds; 167 were discharged on account of physical disability; 4 were discharged by civil process; 62 were taken prisoners; 3 were missed in action; 1 was discharged by order of Secretary of War; 1 was drowned. Fifty-six enlisted men were baptized by Chaplain Gries.

Among the commissioned officers 2 were killed in action, 1 died of wounds, 11 were wounded, 2 were taken prisoners; 5 were transferred; 18 resigned; 2 resigned to accept civil appointments; 36 received promotion.

## DURELL'S BATTERY.

### A Sketch of the Campaigns and Battles of Battery "D," Independent Pennsylvania Volunteer Artillery.

Durell's Battery Association, which will hold its seventeenth annual reunion in Doylestown on Thursday, September 17th, is composed of the survivors of the artillery company recruited by Captain George W. Durell, of Reading, in connection with the 104th Regiment, and was mustered into service on September 24, 1861. Durell had seen three months of service as orderly sergeant of the Ringgold Artillery, one of the first companies to arrive in the defence of Washington. The muster roll upon leaving Camp was composed of 152 men—59 of whom from Berks, 53 from Bucks, and the remainder from Philadelphia and adjoining counties.

The company departed for Washington with the 104th Regiment on November 6th, and one week afterward was separated from the regiment, taken to a camp of instruction for field artillery, located on East Capitol Hill, provided with horses and guns, and before Christmas was assigned to McDowell's Division and parked guns at Munson's Hill, Virginia. It took part in the advance upon Manassas, returned with the army to Alexandria to await transportation to the Peninsula, but was afterward marched with its division to Fredericksburg, where it was the first artillery to threaten that city from the opposite bluffs.

A few weeks afterward the battery took part in the chase after Stonewall Jackson, who had encountered General Shields in the Shenandoah Valley, and returned to Fredericksburg. Burnside's Ninth Army Corps having arrived from North Carolina short of artillery, the battery was assigned to the Second Brigade, Second Division of that corps, of which Hartman's 51st Regiment of Montgomery



County comprised a part, and with these new comrades took part in Pope's advance to Slaughter Mountain and the subsequent retreat across the Rappahannock river. In this retreat it was detailed to take part in a reconnaissance with Buford's Cavalry at Kelly's Ford, and single-handedly silenced the enemy's artillery after a hotly contested fight. Returned to the division, the centre section of the battery was detailed to again join the cavalry in another reconnoitre, and rejoined the battery after two days' absence at Warrenton.

Here Hooker's Division was met, just arrived from the Peninsula, but without artillery, and Durell was again detailed for an emergency. The Confederates had cut off the railroad communication between our army and Washington. Hooker was sent after them and found them at Bristoe station engaged in burning a bridge and tearing up the track. A battle ensued in which the Confederates were repulsed, the battery taking part, in which it lost several horses. Again returned to the Ninth Corps, it was engaged in the battle of Bull Run August 29 and 30, in which one gun was dismounted by the enemy's artillery, but with "fixed prolong" was taken along in the retreat. It was again taken into action on September 1, at Chantilly, in the desperate battle with Stonewall Jackson in his effort to cut the Union retreat to Washington.

It was next engaged at South Mountain, September 14, posted on an advanced position on the summit of the mountain, from which a battery had been driven by the enemy's fire. Early on the morning of the 17th, it was assigned a commanding eminence on the battle-field of Antietam, from which it hurled missiles into the broken ranks of the enemy, which was being repulsed by Hooker on the right, and in the afternoon was the first artillery to cross Antietam bridge after Hartranft's 51st had stormed that stronghold. Then crossing to the high ground near Sharpsburg, it withstood, with two other batteries, the concentrated fire of all the artillery which Lee could bring to bear upon that position, and held it until forced to retire from lack of ammunition.

In Burnside's advance upon Fredericksburg the battery became engaged in an artillery duel at White Sulphur Springs, brought on by an attempt of the enemy to cross the Rappahannock and capture the Union wagon train. In this contest Durell suffered the loss of his eldest lieutenant, Howard McIlvain. In the attack upon the Confederate stronghold at Fredericksburg, the battery occupied Falmouth bluffs and bombarded the city until a crossing was effected, after which it turned its fire upon the earthworks of the enemy. This was continued for five days, after which the Union army had safely recrossed the river and returned to its camps.

General Burnside having resigned the command of the Army of the Potomac, the Ninth Corps was withdrawn from Fredericksburg, and the battery was sent to Fortress Monroe and afterward into camp at Newport News. From thence it was transported to Baltimore and taken by rail to Kentucky, reaching Paris on the 1st of April, 1863. Here it was assigned the duty of suppressing

guerillas, who were infesting the southern border of the State, until early in June, when it was ordered, with its corps, to take transports at Louisville to reinforce Grant at Vicksburg.

The whole corps was here set to work erecting entrenchments in rear of Grant's investing line, to meet Johnson's threat to raise the siege. The battery was on picket duty much of the time until the surrender on the 4th of July, when it marched with Sherman upon Jackson. It took a prominent part in the seven days' siege of that city, and returned with the Ninth Corps to Kentucky. Sickness and other casualties of the Mississippi campaign had so depleted the ranks of the battery that it was unable to proceed with its corps on the march over the Cumberland mountains to the relief of East Tennessee.

Stationed at Covington Barracks, the command gradually recruited by the return of the sick from the hospitals. It was held in readiness to cross to Cincinnati and quell an expected riot in the famous Brough and Vallandigham election; and was early in 1864 sent by special train to Sandusky, and from thence by boat to Johnson's Island to meet an expected raid from Canada to liberate the Confederate prisoners. In February, 1864, the battery veteranized, nearly half of its number re-enlisting for three years more.

The veterans having returned from their furlough, reported at Annapolis, Maryland, where the Ninth Corps was reorganized. After joining the Army of the Potomac in Grant's campaign against Richmond, the corps was engaged in the battle of the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Ann, Cold Harbor and a number of minor engagements, as also the investment of Richmond and Petersburg. During the nearly ten months' siege of Petersburg, the battery was continually on active duty, most of the time upon the advance line in front of the city. At the time of the "Crater" episode, the battery's guns manned Fort Morton, directly facing the "Crater," and took a vigorous part in the terrible bombardment of the Confederate lines. It was engaged in the battle for the possession of the Weldon railroad, Poplar Grove Church and other engagements brought on in the process of lengthening the Union line round to the Confederate right and rear.

On September 24, 1864, the term of those men who had not re-enlisted expired, when they, with Captain Durell, whose health was impaired, left for their homes. The command then fell to Samuel H. Rhoads, of Berks county; and Henry Sailor, of Reading; Adley B. Lawrence, of Chester; Charles A. Cuffel, of Doylestown, and James L. Mast, of Reading, were commissioned lieutenants. In the final battle upon the lines in front of Petersburg, when the Confederate fort Mahone was carried by storm, the cannoneers of the battery followed the assaulting column and turned the captured cannon upon the enemy. In the pursuit of Lee, the battery was halted at Wilson's Station to guard the stores and prisoners on the South Side railroad. After the surrender the battery was marched to Washington, where it took part in the two days' grand review, and was mustered out of service at Philadelphia June 14, 1865.



From *Intelligencer*

*Doylestown Pa*

Date, *Sep. 18. 1896*

The committee of citizens who had in charge the arrangements for the reception and entertainment of the Survivors' Association of the 104th Regiment and Durell's Battery Association at Doylestown, on Thursday, are to be congratulated for the successful manner in which they accomplished every detail. The only drawback to the pleasures of the day was the weather. During the morning hours the weather was very inclement and no doubt kept many away from the town who would otherwise have been present to welcome the veterans.

Doylestown had determined to give the old soldiers a royal welcome. Thirty-five years ago the pride and youth of the county had gone forth from Camp Lacey, Doylestown to fight for freedom. Then they went forth over 1200 strong. On Thursday but a remnant of that splendid body of men marched up from the depot from whence they had departed so many years ago.

By 8 o'clock the G. A. Posts began to arrive in the town, and the Zook Fife and Drum Corps of Norristown, arrived on the 9.23 train. They were marched to the headquarters at Mannerchor Hall from which place with the Citizens' Committee, Co. G, Harvey Camp, S. of V., and General Bodine Posts they marched to the depot to receive the veterans, who came on the 10.03 train.

Some of the G. A. R. Posts carried the post colors and the National flag. Wynkoop Post, of Newtown, had with them a fine flag which was greatly admired.

Ample arrangements had been made at the several hotels for dinner for the veterans and the G. A. R. Posts and all were bountifully served. The veterans were highly pleased with the reception tendered them and declared it to have been the most enjoyable reunion they have held.

After the arrival of the train bringing in the veterans, the column was formed and marched up town as follows;

Chief Marshal—J. Harrison Wilson.

Aids—Silas A. Selser, Joseph G. Hart, George Watson.

Zook Drum and Fife Corps of Norristown—18 pieces.

Reception Committee—30 men.

Company G, Doylestown—40 men.

Capt. G. T. Harvey Camp, Sons of Veterans—20 men.

Col. Bodine Post, 306, G. A. R., Doylestown—25 men. Jonathan Knight, Commander.

T. H. Wynkoop Post, 472, G. A. R., Newtown—21 men. In command of Capt. Wynkoop.

Hugh A. Martindell Post, 366, G. A. R., Langhorne—20 men. Joseph Milnor, Commander.

Peter Lyle Post, 145, of Quakertown—20 men. Charles Shaw, Commander.

Gen. McClellan Post, 99, Frenchtown, N. J.—12 men. William Stayler, Commander.

Col. Croasdale Post, 256, Riegelsville—25 men. Edward Rensimer, Commander. Ringgold Military Band of Philadelphia—27 pieces.

Durell's Battery Association—30 men. Survivors' Association of 104th Penna. Vols.—170 men.

Carriages containing the old veterans who could not walk and wives and daughters of the soldiers.

The following along the line of march had their houses and places of business decorated. Some of the decorations were very fine:

Railroad house, William Eisenhart, Mr. Brower, Barrett's store, Mrs. Smith, William Hoffman, William Snyder, George Roberts, John P. Stilwell, John Donnelly, Dr. Benner, Keller's grocery store, Henry Harvey, Amos Stone, Walton's store, Louis Weirebe, Billerbeck's saloon, Levy's clothing store, White's store, Metlar's store, Reichel's bakery, Lenape Hall, Case's store, post office, I. O. O. F. hall, Hulshizer's store, Randall's store, Fountain house, Henry S. Murfit, Bitting's store, National bank, Garron's store, R. M. Yardley, Trust Company, Dr. Fell, Republican office, Duffield's store, Siegler's store, Harry J. Shoemaker, Hellyer's store, Schoner's restaurant, Democrat and INTELLIGENCER offices, Doylestown Republican Club, Heist's hotel, H. B. Eastburn, Mrs. Mary Buckman, Samuel Z. Freed, Scheetz's Sons store, John L. DuBois, Col. W. W. H. Davis, C. Howard Magill, public school building, Charles F. Meyers, Dr. W. H. Kirk.

#### AT THE MONUMENT.

As the column marched up Main street to the monument crowds of people lined the sidewalks to welcome the veterans. When the parade reached the handsome arch that spanned the street at the intersection of Court and Main streets, the column was halted and opened ranks. The two associations, headed by the band, marched through to the monument, and as they passed Company G and the Sons of Veterans presented arms and the posts and committee stood with uncovered heads.

When the monument was reached, about 400 school children were ranked on the pavement to greet the soldiers. All the children carried small flags, which were vigorously waved by them. All of the commands were circled around the monument, and after a fervent prayer by Rev. E. M. Jefferys, of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, a beautiful dirge was played by the Ringgold Band.

The parade then proceeded to the Court House. Excellent arrangements had been made by the committee and no one was allowed to go inside until those who had taken part in the parade had gone inside and been seated. By these arrangements the members of the two associations and the G. A. R. Posts had



seats in the front of the room.

IN THE COURT HOUSE.

The court room had been beautifully and handsomely decorated for the occasion. Flags, bunting, flowers, potted plants and Chinese lanterns had been used with good judgment in decorating and presenting a pleasing effect. In front of the clerks' desks were large pictures of Lincoln and Grant on easels.

There was a large crowd present to witness the proceedings and every seat in the large room was occupied, while many were compelled to stand.

The proceedings were opened with music by the Ringgold Band, "Medley of War Songs." The audience was completely captivated by the splendid music, and the band is the best that has appeared in Doylestown for many years.

Seated on the Judges bench were President of the 104th Association, John Crock, Col. Davis, Revs. Jefferys, Belville and

Westwood, Judge Yerkes, Charles G. Cadwallader and E. F. Jarrett.

The audience was called to order by President Crock. Secretary McIntosh stated that his grip containing the papers of the Association had been inadvertently left at the Reading Terminal in Philadelphia and the association could not hold their business meeting until afternoon.

Rev. E. M. Jefferys, of Doylestown, then lead in prayer, after which Judge Yerkes was introduced to the audience by Mr. Crock and spoke as follows:

JUDGE YERKES' ADDRESS.

*Soldiers and Fellow Citizens:*

My fellow citizens of this town have confided to me the honor of bidding you welcome here, and direct me, on their behalf, to invite you to partake of their hospitality and to accept of the hearty greeting which they extend to you, the broken remnant of that devoted band of their country's defenders who, more than a generation ago, went hence to give your lives for the preservation of the liberties of the American people, as secured in our form of government and guaranteed, in perpetuity, by the union of the States.

We welcome you in the proud recollection that a most honorable page of our country's history records that here was assembled, organized and placed in the field the battery and battalions of the 104th Pennsylvania regiment, whose bravery and devotion to their country reflected upon their home town and county a share of the golden rays of glory which are destined to grow brighter and brighter so long as constitutional liberty shall survive.

We welcome and honor you who, following the grand example of Washington and his compatriots, when having rescued, by the sword, our liberties, constitutional and union, from the destroying grasp of traitors, you sheathed the weapons of war and quietly returned to the pursuits of peace, and under her protecting aegis, became the exemplars of law and order.

And we welcome you with renewed local pride in the realization that we are honored by having among us, as one of our foremost citizens, your brave and distinguished commander, the true, faithful and patriotic American citizen, who, amongst the first to realize the import of the denial of, and the attack upon

the right of the federal government to enforce its own authority and command obedience to its laws, laid aside the pleasures of home and the allurements of civic advancement to lead you to the field of duty, ever putting himself in the front and ready to share the hardships of the camp and the dangers of the battlefield. Here he sits, one of your decimated company of grizzled and battle scarred warriors, proud of your record, with a heart as alert as then to the honor and integrity of his country; now, as then, with a keen discernment, seeing the danger to our liberties and greatness as a free people, from covert, insidious and malicious attempts, no less dangerous than open war, to undermine and disintegrate constitutional government and now, as then, occupying no equivocal attitude in the work of exposing and overthrowing its enemies. Here he has stood like a beacon light, to young and old, of devotion to patriotic duty and by his cool and dignified courage, blinding and shrivelling into the littleness of their true worth, the intemperate, jealous and domineering chameleons who, hissing and spitting their venom where they dare not strike sought to enslave conscience by the threat of their impotent displeasure.

And, finally, we meet you and join in the pious offering of prayers to the Almighty for the immortal peace of those who fell in the heat of the conflict and in entwining garlands about you shaft of marble which as the ages roll by will stand as the monument of their and your patriotism and magnificent service to your country, for your record is no common one.

When the gaze of the civilized world was directed towards the initial conflict between the first organized armies of the great civil war, at the siege of Richmond, your regiment gained the honor of approaching nearer to that fated city than any other body of Northern troops. It was the rattle of your musketry on that fearful last day of May at Fair Oaks that signalized the opening of that wonderful series of battles around Richmond which, though unsuccessfully terminating, singled out McClellan as the greatest of organizers and commanders of armies and gave the newborn Army of The Potomac, for all time, a place in history with the legions of Caesar, the phalanxes of Alexander, the veterans of Hannibal, the victors of Ansterlitz, the Grand Army in its retreat from Moscow and the old guard of Napoleon at Waterloo.

Your honorable part at Williamsburg, at White House, at Fair Oaks, at Bottom's Bridge, at Gaines Mill, at Seven Pines, at Savage's Station, at White Oak Swamp and at Malvern Hill enrolled you with the heroes of the Army of The Potomac, while you gained additional lustre in the battles on Morris Island for the possession of Charleston.

But of what avail your patriotic services, the death of your comrades and the devotion and anguish of your dear ones in the cause, for which you fought, and which you bore aloft through honorable, open war, shall now or hereafter be sacrificed through indifference or by false confidence in the demagogues who in honeyed words assail it, or lost in the miasmatic vapors of anarchism or destroyed in the rekindled fires of rebel hate?



The period is rapidly approaching when, you, who so actively participated in the great events of that day must become, at best, but spectators of passing events. But all of us who in the recollection of your hard experience realize the cost and sacrifices at which the cause of constitutional government was maintained and know how vividly cruel war and its horrid agencies burned into every heart the lesson of the fearful struggle for the preservation of its principles should not, in fancied security, neglect to impress upon the present generation the duty of guarding it against all assailants through whatever pretext they seek its destruction. Those who must now uphold this cause, if it is not to perish forever were then unborn.

Are those who by words and platitudes honor our country's defenders truly loyal to them and the memory of the dead, by instructing the new generations in the full meaning of the old battle cry of the constitution and the union at whose sound these veterans rushed to arms?

Are we careful to impress upon them the truth that when Sumpter was fired upon it was not the assault upon the flag and the fortress, but rather what they represented that sent a thrill of amazement and terror through every loyal and patriotic heart in the land and, as if by magic, aroused the patriotism of the whole country, and called forth the response of the million of farmers, artisans and professional men of every class and rank (for then, no man dared to raise the craven cry of "the masses against the classes") as they buckled on the armor of war, shouldered their muskets, kissed their dear ones a long farewell and marched forth to the music of "liberty, the Constitution and the Union"? What did the fluttering flag and cold stones of Fort Sumpter signify? They represented the cause of a free people, the Declaration of Independence, the liberties asserted by the sires of the revolution and the Constitution, the means of their preservation, the sacrifices in blood, and the handiwork of Washington, Jefferson, Lee, Adams, Wayne and Montgomery and Warren and Franklin and Hamilton and all the fathers.

Yes: that beautiful mosaic of governmental principles, nowhere else to be found upon the earth or in the pages of recorded history—the Constitution of the United States—maintaining the balance of power between the three great co-ordinate branches of government so evenly and yet so firmly that while that popular license, which, strangely, it seems, on occasions is inevitable, as a safety valve for the wildest political passions and vagaries of men, as they will develop in great aggregations of humanity and which so often defeated the best intentioned efforts at popular government might run its spasmodic riot through the popular branches, it could not destroy the structure so long as the independence of the third, the judiciary, was securely maintained.

What American citizen who recalls the purity, great learning and distinguished services of Marshall, Story, Taney, Grier, Nelson, Chase and Miller in expounding our constitution and in maintaining its principles thinks of destroying that great bulwark of our liberties?

Let us, in 1896 as we honor the defenders of 1863 remember that in constitutional government still lies our safety, that liberty of conscience and public and private security are dearer than the gratification of sordid avarice through injustice, and, that honesty and integrity are preferable to suspicion and disgrace. Do not forget that they who, by peaceful but unconstitutional methods would pull down an independent court, strike at our government just as dangerously as those who train cannon upon the nation's fortresses or resist the laws and, they who deny the authority of a federal court to execute its process or of the government to discharge its legitimate functions in any of the States and who counsel resistance to either, whether in Charleston harbor, Philadelphia or Chicago are no less enemies of American constitutional government than those who in 1861 fired upon the Star of the West when carrying succor to United States soldiers and in opposition to the federal authority offered armed resistance to the National Government. With the assurance that this lesson is thoroughly impressed upon the American people you veterans can well say you did not shoulder your arms in vain.

Again, on behalf of my fellow townsmen, I welcome you here and bid you to be of good cheer.

#### ADDRESSES IN RESPONSE.

Rev. J. R. Westwood, of Philadelphia, responded to Judge Yerkes' address of welcome. Rev. Westwood said that in the name of the survivors of the 104th Regiment and Durell's Battery he returned thanks for the kindly words of welcome extended by Judge Yerkes. He also thanked the citizens for the kindly welcome extended to them in this their seventh annual reunion. He was glad to see the school children and also the great crowds along the streets that bid them welcome. When the first gun was fired in 1861 by the new born Confederacy it kindled in the hearts of all citizens of the North a spirit of patriotism. In the months and years that followed the regiment from Doylestown smelled powder many times. 265 of our comrades were killed and wounded and 65 were taken prisoners of war. But 300 now remain of the regiment. That war is over for all of which we thank God. The Union is preserved and the flag waves over the land of the free. The noblest act of the last century was the Emancipation proclamation by Lincoln. Another war is to be fought around the ballot box for the perpetuity of free institutions. Party ties are melting away and once more at the cry of the nation we stand shoulder to shoulder to save the country. To the last hour of our lives will we be true to principles. No nation can continue without morality and religion. When we lay aside the religion of our Lord Jesus Christ, then might a catastrophe come upon our country and sweep us out of existence. We, the remnants of the 104th, pledge you our strongest support. To the ballot box will we take our consciences. The speaker was greeted with hearty applause as he closed his splendid address.

Rev. Jacob Belville, formerly of Harts-ville, was the next speaker. He said he had come here to-day not as a speech



but at the kind invitation of Colonel of the 104th Regiment. He stayed by him in 1860 and it was his privilege again and again to speak words of encouragement to him, and he had not expected to live to see what he had been to-day. Before him was the lady whose hands the flag was received when he had the honor to present to the regiment before it left for the front, that came back and is still a cherished memento. Mr. Belville paid a high compliment to Judge Yerkes. He knew when a boy and had watched his career. He was here not only to judge of who violated the law but to teach children fidelity to principles and to S. He thanked the friends for the privilege of looking into the faces of people to-day. He had lived among them near them all his life and he blessed that it had been his privilege once more to look into their faces.

Gen. W. W. H. Davis spoke briefly referring to the flag presented to the regiment. He stated that the lady alluded to by Rev. Belville was the prime mover in the whole proceedings. She collected all the money, about \$200, and had the flag made in Philadelphia.

The lady mentioned by the two speakers was Miss Mary Fox, formerly Doylestown.

Lieut. Charles A. Cuffel spoke in behalf of the Battery Association. Mr. Cuffel said:

On behalf of Durrell's Battery Association, I thank you for the cordial reception which you have given us. Our meeting in this place of our first experience as soldiers and your hearty welcome reminds us of the days of '61, and of the good men and true of that time. Among them were prominent Union-loving men whose memory should be forever cherished. We revere the name of the Hon. Henry Chapman, whose portrait fittingly adorns the wall of this splendid temple of justice; of Gen. John Davis, father of the honored commander of the 104th Regiment; of Enos Prizer, the able editor; of Captain Mahlon Yardley, Henry T. Darlington, George Lear, Richard Watson, John J. Brock, and others, now gathered to their fathers, whose voices were raised in earnest appeal for the preservation of the

Union, and prevailed upon some of us to enlist for the war.

We recall the interest taken by the citizens in our welfare while in the recruiting camp hard-by this town, bringing comforts and luxuries which were missing in our new calling, and sympathy for us in what they deemed the hardships and privations of camp life. We remember the large gathering of the people at the railroad station to bid us God-speed on the morning of our departure for the seat of war; and we have a fond recollection of the appreciation of the services of the Battery entertained by the ladies of Doylestown, while we were confronting the enemy in Kentucky. Our battle-flag had been tattered and torn by exposure in the service, when the ladies, upon hearing of it, generously sent us a beautiful new silk guidon. We hailed the flag; we cheered the fair donors, and gave our pledge then and there that no act of ours should dishonor the sacred emblem be-

stowed by such generous, patriotic hands. It inspired the "boys" with fresh zeal, and a number of them who had been hesitating about re-enlisting determined

*(Continued from first page.)*

to see the "fight to the finish," encouraged by the assurance that loyal, loving hearts were back of us to render aid and comfort. Whether we were worthy of the trust confided by the ladies, the record of the battery will attest.

Captain Samuel Rhoads, the second commander of the Battery, also spoke for his comrades. He appreciated the kindly welcome extended. Doylestown was a dear place to him, and they all felt free in the town. The speaker said he had heard of the beautiful regimental flag and he was astonished not to see it unfurled here to-day. His reference to the flag was greeted with deafening applause and he could not proceed for several moments.

After the speaker concluded the exercises of the morning were brought to a close.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

When the people reassembled in the court room after dinner it was late and no time was lost in getting down to business. The band and the drum corps had been rendering excellent music upon the streets in the meantime, and the former was again present at the afternoon session of the convention. Several selections were played at intervals during the afternoon and the music was much enjoyed by the large audience. The popularity of the band was conspicuous, as a large portion of the audience followed it when it left the hall just before the storm commenced.

President Crock opened the afternoon exercises by calling upon Secretary McIntosh to read the minutes of the last reunion, held at Reading, but that gentleman thought it would facilitate business to dispense with them.

It was moved that a committee on thanks, consisting of one member from each company and a chairman from the staff of officers, be appointed by the President. This was done. The names of the committeemen appear with their work.

A committee to audit the accounts of the treasurer for the past year, consisting of Comrades Wyatt, Jarrett and Widdifield, was appointed and instructed to retire for the performance of its duties.

The election of officers being in order, a number of members were nominated for President, but all withdrew in favor of Comrade A. M. Rapp, who was elected by acclamation, as were also Albert L. Eastburn, for Vice President; Edward S. McIntosh, for Recording Secretary; Harry A. Widdifield, for Corresponding Secretary, and Samuel Wright, for Treasurer.

All the newly-elected officers are from Philadelphia.

It was stated that Durrell's Battery Association had passed a resolution to meet at Bristol next year, and as the place was favorable to the 104th Association a resolution to unite with the battery there was adopted.

The secretary read the names of comrades who had died during the year.

The following report of the committee on thanks was adopted:

NOTE OF THANKS.

DOYLESTOWN, PA., Sept. 17, 1893.



To the Officers and Members of the 104th Pa. Vols. Survivors' Association and the Durrell's Battery Association:

Comrades: Your committee appointed to draft resolutions expressive of our thanks for the reception this day accorded us, respectfully report the following and move its adoption by a rising vote:

1. To the committee of our local comrades who so successfully inaugurated the movement that has resulted in this grand meeting;
2. To the committee of citizens of Doylestown and vicinity, and the various sub-committees, who have worked so earnestly and successfully to provide the magnificent reception and entertainment for ourselves and families;
3. To the school board, teachers and school children of Doylestown borough, whose co-operation in the reception have contributed so much to our pleasure, and whose actions this day must so much tend to keep alive the spirit of loyalty and patriotism exhibited by this community in the dark days of 1861-65;
4. To the local organizations of Doylestown, and to our comrades of the various Posts of the G. A. R., who by their presence in such numbers to-day have shown such warmth of greeting and fraternal spirit;
5. To the newspapers of the county, and especially those of Doylestown, for their very cordial and earnest efforts in furthering the grand success of the day;
6. To the clergy, speakers and to the whole community, for this whole souled, generous and truly hearty reception and welcome back to the "birthplace" of our respective organizations, after the lapse of a generation of time;
7. To the board of County Commissioners of Bucks county who have so generously placed at our disposal for meeting purposes this beautiful building and grounds;

We extend our most grateful and heartfelt thanks, and express the hope that God may prosper them, individually and collectively.

[Signed]

DR. W. T. ROBINSON, Staff,  
WILLIS WALL, Co. A.  
A. M. RAPP, Co. B.  
W. R. ELLIOTT, Co. C.  
LEVI GODSHALK, Co. D.  
E. H. BECK, Co. E.  
JOHN NELSON, Co. F.  
CAPT. CORCORAN, Co. G.  
CHARLES SPANGLER, Co. H.  
JOSEPH WILLIAMS, Co. I.  
WILLIAM STAPLER, Co. K.

Adopted by a rising vote

A vote of thanks was tendered to Secretary Edward S. McIntosh for his efficient labors in behalf of the 104th Regiment Association during his incumbency and especially at this convention.

Mr. McIntosh responded gracefully and proceeded to read a number of letters of regret from members in distant localities.

A comrade moved that at reunions in the future distinct badges should be provided for members of the organization, so that they might more readily be recognized as such.

The report of the auditing committee, approving all the bills of the year, was received and adopted as presented.

Widow Brown offered a suggestion to the effect that the ladies of the Survivor's Association form a ladies' auxiliary to the veterans' organizations and her idea was the foundation for a motion that a committee of three be appointed from the Survivors' Association to act with the ladies in the matter.

Comrade William Barnhill, General W. W. H. Davis and Secretary Edward S. McIntosh were named by the president as the Survivors' committee, and Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Wallazz and Mrs. Barnhill were called upon to represent the ladies.

The business meeting then resolved itself into a campfire.

Rev. C. T. Morgan, of Massachusetts, was introduced by President Crook and called upon for a short address.

He said his connection with the 104th Regiment was that of an adopted child. He was pleased to note the proposed activity of the ladies in coming to the front as an auxiliary corps. He hoped that they would be treated not only as the

equals of the veterans but as their superiors.

The soldier should be remembered for what he was, for what he did, for what he is at the present time and for what he needs.

He believed that a Grand Army man never asked for too large a pension. The country would be in a very poor situation indeed when it refused to help its old soldiers.

Comrade A. M. Rapp, the newly elected president, was called upon for a speech, but said it was not in his line and he would not attempt it.

Hon. Robert M. Yardley, of Doylestown, was nominated for an address. He responded in his usual able manner, launching at once into an eloquent tribute to the soldiers who saved the union.

Captain Alfred Marple, of Langhorne, said that every sign indicated that the men were growing older and fewer. But there is no tie stronger than that which knits comrade to comrade. Through victory and defeat, disaster and good fortune, privation and fatigue, they marched shoulder to shoulder, and as long as any remained they would cling together and keep fresh the memories of what they lived through and bled for.

The exercises closed amid a violent storm, accompanied by thunder, lightning, rain and hail, and many of the audience were obliged to remain at the court house until the elements relaxed in violence.

#### VETERANS PRESENT.

The following members of the 104th Regiment Survivors' Association were present:

*Company A*—Samuel A. Campbell, Edwin Fretz, George W. Gordon, Dr. W. T. Robinson, Christian Schütz, Frank Bartleman, Fred Bartleman, Isaac Holcomb, Jesse S. Hellyer, Joseph Wiatt, James Garis, Jeremiah Algard, Edwin Leister, W. Y. Martindell, C. C. Williams, Mathias J. Loux, Isaac S. Fryling, James Hargrave, John McD. Laughlin, P. A. Horn, Ramsey C. Groom, Jacob K. Charles, Robert E. Benson, Lawrence Fryling, Joseph A. VanHorn, James S. Rice, Harvey G. Shaddinger, James M. Rogers, Willis Wall, Joseph T. Hart, Joseph Sands, E. S. McIntosh.

*Company B*—Henry A. Widdifield, Jerry Worthington, Moses Bothers, Charles Beal, William Gault, A. Markley Rapp, Evan Stover, William B. Worthington.

*Company C*—R. Wilson Perry, Edward Bright, Chalkley Bright, J. Catherwood Robinson, Jonathan Clayton, John D. Erwin, Charles T. Michener, W. H. H. Hibbs, Albert Vanhorn, Casper Lee, W. R. Elliot, Ramsey C. Wetter, Harvey Sine, W. R. Roberts.

*Company D*—George C. Breisch, S. C. Wright, E. R. Artman, George A. Leinbach, Christian Grossman, Daniel Kraeder, Levi Godshalk, John Anker, William Snyder, Edward Conway.

*Company E*—William McIntyre, H. H. Cole, A. B. Wannop, E. H. Beck.

*Company F*—Edward Severns, William Woodside, Joseph Eastburn, Alfred Eastburn, John Crook, Morris Seese, Anthony Burton, Benjamin Alburton, Captain A. Marple, Lieut. J. C. Nelson, W. A. Barnhill, James Ervin, Benjamin Vanzant, Merritt South, Addis Bice.

*Company G*—Harry C. Kessler, John



W. Merston, William H. Gwerner, Thomas Fries.

*Company H*—William Raab, Captain G. W. Connor, Charles Spangler, Joel Settey.

*Company I*—A. H. Palmer, Samuel Garner, N. Gamble.

*Company K*—C. G. Cadwallader, Timothy Cadwallader, Will Stapler, Ely Walton, B. F. Jarrett, William Wagner, Daniel Thomas, Thomas Chambers, Silas A. Good.

#### BUSINESS MEETING OF THE BATTERY ASSOCIATION.

Durell's Battery Association held its business meeting in the grand jury room at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Lieutenant Charles A. Cuffel, of Doylestown, presiding. Secretary Horace D. Boone, of Reading, called the roll, to which the following named comrades responded. Sergt. John Lewis, William Cleaver, D. D. Hart, Joseph Derflinger, Isaiah J. Sellers, Oliver C. Ledy, Charles H. MacCorkle, Martin H. Smith, Jacob S. Foster, Edward Hencke, John Rice, Henry Parton, Charles A. Cuffel, Oliver C. Giffins, Corp. Robert Conard, John Ringler, James S. Rich, Corp. I. Carey Carver, Corp. Mahlon Buckman, W. W. H. Closson, George Douglass, James Bissey, Patrick Scanlon, Charles F. Weaver, Samuel A. Tobias, Capt. Samuel H. Rhoads, Amos Knabb and Joseph H. Ney.

The reports of the board of managers and of the Secretary were read and approved. Reading and Bristol were proposed as the places of next year's meeting, and, after some discussion, Bristol was unanimously fixed upon, and the date of time for meeting left to the new board of managers.

The following named were unanimously elected to the offices for the following year: President, George Douglass, of Hulmeville; First Vice President, Robert Conard, of Philadelphia; Second Vice President, Charles H. MacCorkle, of Newportville; Secretary, Horace D. Boone, of Reading; Board of Managers, George Douglass, Charles H. MacCorkle, Robert Conard, Isaiah J. Sellers, Mahlon Buckman and John Rice.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted, with instructions to have it published in all of the Doylestown papers:

*Resolved*, That the thanks of Durell's Battery Association are due and are hereby extended to John Yardley, Chairman, and Alfred Paschall, Secretary of the Committee on Entertainment, and to every member of the committee, for the cordial reception and hospitable treatment given this association, and to the citizens of Doylestown who cheerfully aided them in making this reunion one always to be remembered as one unexcelled for the display of a generous people's gratitude to the defenders of their country.

The proposition of marking the different positions of the battery upon the Antietam battle field, which had been under discussion in last year's meeting, was gone over, but no definite conclusion was arrived at. A motion to meet on that battle field two years hence, was lost.

Corporal I. Carey Carver, of West Chester, James S. Rich, of Buckingham, and

Rev. B. D. Albright, of Bethlehem, addressed the meeting, all of whom warmly praised the citizens of Doylestown for the cordial manner in which they were received and entertained, after which the seventeenth annual meeting was adjourned.

#### An Historic Old Building.

A few days ago Judge Edward M. Paxson, Edward E. Paxson and Col. Henry D. Paxson, of Philadelphia, dined with Albert S. Paxson, Esq., at the old Lindenwold mansion near Holicong. The occasion called to mind much of the history connected with the premises since its first occupancy by the Elys. In 1720 Hugh, son of Joshua, of Trenton, purchased of James Lenox 300 acres and four years later 100 more adjoining, now owned by Charles Smith. The first purchase was afterwards divided into several farms, two of them are now owned by Anna C. Atkinson and Anna J. Williams. Originally the 400 acres was covered with primeval forest of oak, hickory and chestnut, which in the long lapse of years has mostly succumbed to the woodman's axe.

The old mansion bears little resemblance to its former appearance, the old fire place that did good service in the line of six consecutive generations, with the old cranel and crane is still preserved. The line of title ran from Hugh the first to his son Hugh, thence to William and from him to Aaron, the father of the late Lavina Paxson, wife of Albert S. Paxson, Esq., the present occupant, whose sons represent the six generation that have occupied the premises since 1720. The Bye property is perhaps the only one in the vicinity that has been held continuously thus long, and it has recently had the line of ancestry broken and passed into other hands. Seventy-five acres of the original Ely tract are now held by the Paxson family.

From *Democrat*

Doylestown Pa

Date, *January 15 1897*

#### AN OLD LANDMARK WILL GO.

**A Ruined Mill Two Hundred Years Old to be Removed.**

It is rumored that the grounds on which stand the old Swedish mill, at Holmesburg, have been sold for factory purposes, and that the ruins will soon be removed. It is claimed that the mill was the first ever built in this section of the country and is the second oldest in America. Its massive foundations were laid in 1697, at which time there was no other mill west of New England. Here came the settlers of Penn-



sylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland to have their grain transformed into meal.

Journeys to this old mill were hazardous journeys in those days. There were no railway trains then. A stage line was even unthought of, and the trip must of necessity be made in the primitive boats of the day or by horseback. The water route was chiefly used by the New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland settlers. They were able to bring their grain-laden scows up the Pennypack and thence by an artificial waterway to the side of the old mill. It was a long, tedious and dangerous journey, one from which the hardest latter-day farmer would shrink, but it had to be made if bread was to be provided for the children.

Even more dangerous was it for the Welsh settlers of interior Pennsylvania. To reach the old mill they were compelled to blaze a road through the trackless forest, through which the fierce red man and his equally fierce renegade white brother roamed at will.

This road is yet known as the old Welsh road, and around it cluster stories of desperate and sanguinary conflicts, which would put to shame the most fulsome efforts of the compiler of yellow-backed literature. The trip must be made upon horseback and in large and well-armed parties, but in spite of these precautions many a party never reached the old mill that, laden with grain, started from the interior settlements.

Time worked many changes. New machinery was introduced and the mill's architecture was altered, but its wheel was still turned by the water of the stream, and it continued to do business at the old stand until 1880, when a fire accomplished what time and the weather had failed to—laid the old mills in ruins and forever put an end to its usefulness. To-day it is but a picturesque and historic ruin, but even as such it is beloved for its traditions and departed glory by the residents of Holmesburg. While they lament that its ruins are to be desecrated they must still rejoice that another industry is to be added to their community.

## HALF AN HOUR WITH OUR OLD TAVERNS.

Read Before the Bucks County  
Historical Society,

AT THE MID-WINTER MEETING,

In the Court House, Doylestown,  
January 19, 1897, by W. W. H.  
Davis.

There is a deal of history in old taverns, and when but few people could read, or write, their sign boards played no mean part in the literature of city and town.

Many London streets derived their name from the sign before the tavern, not infrequently the first house built. A study of these signs develops some curious learning, suggestive of the mode of thought and humor of their period.

The crown, typical of royalty, was one of the oldest English signs. There was a "Crown" in Cheapside, London, as early as 1467. It was associated with many other names, as "Crown and Mitre," "Crown and Anchor," etc. An old couplet runs thus:

"The Gentry to the King's head,  
The nobles to the Crown."

The anchor was probably used as an emblem without reference to its use in shipping; and was frequently found in the catacombs, typical of the words of St. Paul, the "Anchor of the Soul." The Cross Keys are the arms of the Papal See, the emblem of Peter and his successors; but I have no time to linger, and must hasten to the subject of my paper—"Half an Hour with Our Old Taverns."

The first tavern in Doylestown was opened by William Doyle, in 1745, and license granted at the March term. The petitioner stated he lived "between two great roads, one leading from Durham to Philadelphia, the other from Wells' ferry toward the Potomack." As Doyle lived in New Britain this would bring his residence in one of the angles formed by the crossing of the present Main and State streets, and north of court. The license was renewed for thirty years, and Doyle kept the house until about 1775, when he sold out and removed to Plumstead, where he died.

Just where this pioneer tavern stood would be interesting to know. It is only reasonable to suppose Doyle's tavern was near the cross roads so it could command the travel of both. He may have first set up the bar in his own dwelling, and afterward rented, or purchased, a convenient house. In this case it is likely the location was south of Court street, and as near one of the four corners as he could get. It must be remembered that Doylestown, at that time, contained hardly half a dozen log houses and the present name was not applied until more than thirty years afterward. In 1752 William Doyle bought nineteen acres, of Isabella Crawford, on what is now the northeast corner of State and Main streets which he sold in October, 1774-76 to Daniel Hough, innkeeper, of Warwick. This purchase included Randall's corner, and part, if not all, of the block bounded by Main, State, Pine and Court streets.

Two or three locations are claimed as the site of Doyle's tavern, but there is little or no evidence to sustain them. Each one may draw his or her own conclusions from the facts. There is one fact, however, that militates against the claim that it stood on the site of Mrs. Scheetz's dwelling, West Court street. When Doyle applied for license at the June term, 1774, he was set down in the records as "William Doyle of Warwick." The line of the present Court street was then the boundary between New Britain and Warwick, and the site of the Scheetz dwelling was in New Britain. It is more than likely that Doyle had kept at the same location all the years he had been a landlord.

In conclusion we repeat what we said at the beginning: It would be highly



interesting to know the exact location of "Doyle's Tavern," the name our future county capital bore for thirty years. It might open the way for the development of data now entirely unknown, and let us into the secret where the young DoYLES, Dungs, McLeans, Wests, Manns, Johnsons, Flacks, Griers, and Snodgrasses, scions of the leading families hereabouts, spent their evenings and tripped the light fantastic toe with their rustic sweethearts. We have no modern Oedipus to unravel the mystery that envelops our subject.

There is not the same mystery surrounding the second of our group, known to our fathers as the "Ship Tavern," for it stood at the southeast corner of State and Main streets, the site of Lenape Building. It antedated all other taverns of our borough except Doyle's. When torn down in 1874, to erect Lenape, the tongue of tradition said it had rounded out a full century as a licensed house, and I believed it. There was evidence of great age about the building. The eastern end, containing the long low parlor, was the original building. The pointing on the end wall next to Main street was in good condition, and, when the western end was built, probably when license was granted, the old wall was plastered over. No doubt the original building was built for a dwelling. Samuel and Joseph Flack, one of them the ancestor of James Flack, of our borough, owned this corner in 1774, and, from that time down to 1791 when they sold it. The writer was told many years ago, by Mrs. Nathan Cornell, long a resident of Doylestown, that Samuel Flack kept tavern here in 1778; and, as he and his brother Joseph owned the corner where the "Ship" stood, it is more than probable he launched that barque "upon the vasty deep."

An event, worth the telling, connects this old house with Revolutionary times. On May 1, 1778, the day of the battle of Crooked Billet, a young child of Samuel Flack was buried from this house, at Neshaminy graveyard. Fear of the British was such that but four persons were willing to accompany the corps, two young men and two young women, all mounted, one of the men carrying the coffin on his horse and both armed. On reaching the graveyard the men dismounted and buried the corps, and, when that was done, they all galloped home as rapidly as possible. They heard the firing of the Crooked Billet. One of these plucky girls was Mary Doyle, afterwards a Mrs. Mitchell, and mother of Mrs. Nathan Cornell already mentioned. This is the first we hear of the "Ship Tavern," and it was through its front door the little coffin of the dead child was carried that sweet May morning one hundred and eighteen years ago.

We next hear of the "Ship" in December, 1805, when George Stewart announces in Asher Miner's paper that he had "again commenced business at the old stand in the village of Doylestown, a few rods south west of the two taverns." The "two taverns" were the Ship and the ancestor of the Fountain House, on corners diagonally opposite. The Mansion House was not licensed until five years later, and was not then built. On the 10th of Janu-

ary, Asher Miner's paper again speaks of our hostelry, as "that noted tavern stand, 'Sign of the Ship,' in the tenure of Matthew Hare, situate in Doylestown, fronting the Easton and New Hope roads." The western, or barroom end, had previously been built. On April 1, 1817, Jacob Kohl advertised his occupancy of the "Ship Inn," formerly occupied by John Worman, and latterly by Lott Carr and Colonel Flack, opposite the stands of John Brock and Captain Magill. The former was a storekeeper, and the latter kept the Mansion House on the opposite corner. Flack offered the property for sale in 1816, but it did not sell. Kohl was agent for a line of stages that ran to Philadelphia.

In 1829 it was called the "Bucks County Inn;" in 1839, the "Bucks County Hotel" and kept by Richard Leedom. One of the more recent landlords was Benjamin Morris, born in Doylestown township, and elected Sheriff in 1833. He was a member of the Morris family of Hilltown, which, at one time, was prominent in the county. He was Sheriff of the county when the Mina-Chapman murder took place, and he hanged the murderous Spaniard. He spent several of the latter years of his life at the Ship and died there. His step-daughter, Miss LaRue, a tall, graceful, pretty girl, became the first wife of the late Dr. George T. Harvey, and was the mother of Judge Edward Harvey, of Allentown. The widow of Benjamin Morris died in recent years over ninety.

After Benjamin Morris, the "Ship" had several commanders, the next owner probably being Pierson Hyde. He did not keep the house, but rented it to A. R. Kram. This brings us down to 1851, when Alfred H. Barber, of Point Pleasant, bought the property and moved in April 1, '52, Kram going to the Citizens' House. Mr. Barber kept the house until the Fall of 1859, when he sold it to Aaron Barndt, and moved out in the Spring of 1860, and the new landlord moved in. Barndt did not long enjoy his new honors, for he died in 1862 or '63, and the Ship Tavern passed into the possession of his family, and, for the next ten years, it was in the hands of tenants. The first of these was Abner Cleaver, who came from the Clear Spring and remained a couple of years, when he removed to the historic Brick Tavern, Newtown, where he still is. He was succeeded by John Bush, the last of a long line of landlords, the Doylestown Improvement Company buying the property for the erection of Lenape Building, and, into their hands, Bush gave up the Ship in the Spring of 1874. Peace to its ashes! The borough elections were held for many years at the Ship, while the vote was cast at one poll, and if the scenes attending these expressions of the popular will could be recalled, they would make an exceedingly interesting chapter in our village life. An oil painting of the old inn is extant.

The Fountain House is the third tavern in this group, and its record reaches back almost a hundred years, under various names.

The ground it, and its belongings stand upon, is part of a tract William Penn conveyed to Jeremiah Langhorne, October 10, 1707. Thirty-nine years afterward it came into possession of Richard Swanwick, an officer of customs at Philadelphia; who, taking sides with the Crown when the Revolution broke out, his real estate was



confiscated and sold at public auction, August 24, 1779. He owned the land the Fountain House and hank stand upon, and it was bought by Samuel and Joseph Flack, the same who owned the Ship tavern, and to whom the State executed a deed June 8, 1780. Meanwhile Samuel Flack had bought his brother Joseph's interest, and conveyed the whole to John Shaw, innkeeper, of Plumstead. It is thought Shaw built a house, obtained license and kept tavern there; but, be that as it may, Shaw sold the property to Enoch Harvey, March 29, 1794; Harvey to Charles Stewart, his father-in-law, in 1798; Stewart to Dr. Hugh Meredith, in 1802, and Meredith conveyed it back to Harvey, in 1803. Harvey now owned the property to his death in 1822.

Our Quarter Sessions records show that license was issued to Charles Stewart in 1800, 1801 and 1802, and to Enoch Harvey in 1802 3 4 5 6-7 8, and several years afterward. Harvey rented the house to David D. Marple, in 1815, who subsequently went to Philadelphia and died there in 1829. At this period the house was known as the "Doylestown Hotel," and then the "Fox Chase Hotel," retaining the latter name until sometime in the 30's. A live whale, caught in the Delaware near Trenton, was exhibited at the house in the Fall of 1815, the admittance to adults being 25c, and children 12 1/2. Mr. Harvey advertised the property for sale in July, 1815, and the description given of it then is of interest after a lapse of 80 years. He says:

"The house is large and commodious, 76 feet in length and 30 wide, containing six convenient rooms on the lower floor besides an entry, and ten rooms on the second floor, one being sufficiently capacious to accommodate parties of business or pleasure. In front of the house is a porch, and, contiguous to it, is a well of superior and lasting water with a good pump therein." The house was then but two stories with the usual attic. I remember the "capacious" room spoken of on the second floor, and attended a military ball there nearly fifty years ago, when the nodding plumes and glittering epaulets of the county militia officers helped make a brilliant scene. It was called the "ball room" and formed by throwing three rooms, separated by movable partitions, into one. At the time it was the only room in the borough, except the court room, suitable for such purpose.

Mr. Harvey made a second attempt to sell the property in 1830, with no better success than before. He spoke of it as "the Sign of the Fox Chase," 26 miles from Philadelphia, 30 from Easton, 11 from New Hope; it fronts on the Philadelphia and Easton Port Road, and the State Road to the State line, and is known as the most eligible situation in the village for a public house. Among the outbuildings were two stone hay houses, carriages house, shed and stabling for 60 horses, also a large stone blacksmith, and good wheelwright shop.

After the death of Harvey in 1832, the executor sold the tavern property to Daniel Wierman for \$1,976, and the following year the latter sold it to Stephen Brock, who took possession April 1, 1833, coming up from the Turk, whither he had removed from Doylestown the Spring before. Brock was the most famous landlord of the town, if not of the county. He will encounter us again before we are

through, when we shall have more to say of him. Brock kept the house for a couple of years and sold it in 1835 to James Meredith for \$4,250. Meredith probably never occupied the house but made some improvements. Isaac W. James was the landlord in 1836, and it was called the "Doylestown Hotel," the revival of an old name. There was now a double plaza, and two thirds of the building was three stories high. James was followed by William Field, who kept the house in 1837-38, and, in the Winter, or early Spring of the latter year, Meredith sold the property to Elnathan Pettitt for \$5,000. He came up from the Anchor, the second landlord that hostelry gave to our borough.

Mr. Pettitt was an old and experienced landlord and he increased the popularity of the house. The Quarter Sessions records show that he kept a licensed house in Warwick in 1800, 1801, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, but we have no means of telling where. Prior to the organization of Doylestown township, he may have kept a house anywhere in Doylestown, south of Court street and been in Warwick.

Mr. Pettitt took possession of what we call the Fountain House in the Spring of 1838, and ruled over the destinies of the old inn eleven years. The *Bucks County Intelligencer* gave him a send-off by recommending him and his sons "as true and good Whigs as there are in the county." Mr. Pettitt had two sons and two daughters, agreeable young people, who attracted company, and helped to make the house a social centre. Elnathan, or "Telly," as he was known to everybody, remained at home and assisted his father to run the house, while John B. read medicine, graduated, and settled at Taylorsville, where he married. His death was a sad one. On the night of May 26, 1845, while returning from visiting a patient, his horse ran away, threw him out, and, becoming entangled in the harness, was dragged several hundred yards, and picked up dead.

One of Mr. Pettitt's daughters married Mannassah H. Snyder, the founder of the *Bucks County Express*, the first German newspaper published in the county. He was prominent; was proprietor and editor of the *Doylestown Democrat*; was Postmaster, and cut quite a figure in political and military circles. He rounded out a varied life by serving in the ranks during the war of 1861-65, and two of his sons were in the same employ as telegraph operators. During Mr. Pettitt's ownership Stephen Brock rented the inn one year, and that Summer the house received a fresh coat of paint. When Pettitt sold out, in 1849, the hotel passed into the hands of Charles H. Mann who had recently retired from the Sheriff's office. He took possession the first of April moving down from the Citizens' house. This is almost fifty years ago, and yet, on looking back, it seems that one can almost touch that period with one's hand. Subsequent to Mann's occupancy forty years ago, there have been five proprietors and landlords for this popular public house; N. P. Brower 1856, William Corson 1867, Edward Yost 1879, John T. Stimpson 1883, and Daniel McLaughlin since 1892. In this time the house has been much improved, and is now the most imposing and valuable hotel in the county. Mr. Corson changed the name to the "Fountain House," from the small fountain he put in over the old well. John Purdy was the landlord while Mr.



Simpson owned the house, and a model one he was. Mr. McLaughlin, the present owner and keeper of this popular establishment is able to speak for himself.

Not the least interesting feature in the history of the Fountain House is its increase in value. In less than half a century it has appreciated nearly two thousand per cent. Giving the figures we have at hand, and starting at 1832, when it was sold for \$1,976, we find an increase in value at every change of hands until it passed to its present owner at \$33,000. We doubt if equal advance in the price of a country tavern property can be cited anywhere else in Pennsylvania.

The Mansion House, that stood on the southwest corner of State and Main streets, the site of Welnebe's bakery and confectionery, is the fourth historic tavern. In 1775, this corner, and a considerable tract in the angle formed by Main and State streets, was owned by William Scott. When the Continental army encamped at Doylestown, in June, 1778, on its march from Valley Forge to strike the British army in its flight to New York, one brigade occupied the south side of State street west of Main. A small frame or log house stood on the corner.

While it is not important, for our purpose, to know when the Magill's came to Doylestown, or got possession of this corner, we will say, in passing, they were early settlers and the male line is still with us in the person of Charles H. Magill, grandson of William, first landlord of the Mansion House. He was born in 1777 and erected the building, a two and half story stone fronting State street, in the first decade of the century. It was doubtless built for a public house, and its erection probably hastened by the movement to have the seat of Justice removed to Doylestown. He took out his first license in 1810. This was renewed from year to year, and he continued to keep the house until his death, in 1824, at the age of 47. Mr. Magill was a man of note and influence in the community, and public spirited, judging from his conduct. When the British Army threatened Philadelphia, in 1814, he recruited a company of Volunteers and served through the campaign on the lower Delaware. On one occasion his townsmen selected him to deliver the 4th of July oration, and he acquitted himself with great credit, the celebration taking place in the Academy. No doubt the name it bore for 50 years was given the house at the time it was built. It had a porch on both fronts, and, when Peter Opp returned home from the Mexican War, in 1848, Dr. Charles H. Mathews welcomed him in a patriotic speech from this porch.

On the death of William Magill he was succeeded by his widow, a practice more common then than now, and she presided over the destiny of the Mansion House for ten years. As we find William Field in possession in 1834, he probably followed Mrs. Magill in her life time. He was a son of Benjamin Field, of Doylestown, and elected Sheriff of the county the same Fall. This shortened his reign over this tavern. There were four candidates. Field and Henry Carver representing the two great parties, with Christopher Bloom and George Harple as free lances. Field was elected by a majority of 120, while the two independent candidates polled, respectively, 136 and 793 votes. Field was

twice married, his first wife being Martha Dungan to whom he was united, October 27, 1824, by George H. Pawling, Esq. He was a popular man and innkeeper, and figured extensively in after years in that calling. His daughter Elizabeth, a child of the second marriage, a sprightly, pretty girl, and the toast of the young men of Doylestown, added to the popularity of her father's house. She married Rex Peters, son of the great stage proprietor, and partner of Raeside, who was called the

"Admiral," and they settled down a farm in Chester county.

Samuel E. Buck was the successor of William Field at the Mansion House, keeping it a couple of years; then removing to the Buck Tavern, formerly Mrs. Marple's, 130 North Second street, Philadelphia, which he opened December 19, 1838. He probably kept that a year, when he took the Mount Vernon House, South Second street, where he died December 7, 1840. He was a member of the Buck family of Nockamixon, and a handsome, dashing-looking man. He and one of the pretty daughters of Josiah Y. Shaw falling in love with each other, they gave the father the slip; hied away to the city and were married by Mayor Swift, December 29, 1833. Buck came to Doylestown in 1832, and began store-keeping with Daniel Wierman as business partner, the latter dying in January, 1834. Mr. Buck's widow married John Titus, a native of this county and member of the Philadelphia Bar, who afterward achieved considerable distinction in the profession, at one time filling the chair of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Arizona. Mrs. Titus was a lovely woman, whose estimable qualities increased with ripening years.

When Buck left the Mansion House, in 1838, a man named Zepp, from Philadelphia, took charge, of whom little is known and less said by this generation. When Zepp went out Charlie Tucker moved in. He was a facetious fellow, and a tailor, who followed his trade while he played the role of landlord. He probably kept the house three years as we know license was issued to him in January, 1842, for the coming year. Tucker had several successors while the house continued in license, Thomas Sands being one of the last. The house went out of license in the Summer of 1853, while David Wilson, of Nockamixon, was landlord, who was sold out by the Sheriff. It was Democratic headquarters for several years, and there the returns were brought the night of the election. As it did not take so long to count off then, as at present, the returns were frequently in by midnight, when the political couriers would set out to carry the news to different sections of the county. This was continued until there was proper telegraph and rail facilities. To get the returns required much riding and driving. There was so much uncertainty as to Bridges first election, 1852, that Dr. Harvey and myself drove up to Allentown, a round trip of 60 miles, so get the figures, driving John Welke's famous match grays.

The first telegraph instrument in the county was set up and operated in the Mansion House parlor in the Winter of 1845. I was living here and remember it well. Dr. Alfred Goell, a Russian, and pet of Amos Kendall, Postmaster General, and James L. Shaw, son of Josiah Y. Shaw, of Doylestown, were putting up



wires from Norristown across Montgomery and Bucks to Lambertville, a section of the line from Washington to New York, via Baltimore and Philadelphia. The instrument attracted great attention and many came to see it; and they were not a few who contradicted it when told people could talk over the wires. At that time copper wire only was used, as it was thought none other would carry the electric current.

The Mansion House property was not sold at the death of William Magill's widow, but retained in the family until their son Alfred, father of Charles H., died. This was in 1853, when it was put up at public sale and knocked off to John Weikel for about \$6,000, and a conveyance executed to William T. Eisenhower and Abraham L. Garron for an advance of \$500. The property was about an acre in extent, fronting on South Main street and West State. It was sold off in building lots and built up with stores and dwellings; the Main street block in 1857, and that on State after the war. Whiloughby Shade bought the tavern house and kept a tinware and stove store there for a few years, when it passed into the hands of the late James S. Mann, who improved it handsomely as we see it to-day. Thus two of the "Three Taverns," around which throbbed much of the business pulse and life of the village, and were really its centre, have passed into history.

There were two groups of old taverns in Doylestown; one, and the elder, at the crossing of the two main streets, whose history we have briefly rehearsed; the other, about the court house. These had their birth in the removal of the seat of justice to this place, and, but for that, would probably never have existed. Their story we will now relate.

The elder of these is known to history as the "Indian Queen," a name recognized by few of the present generation, and by these as more of a myth than a reality—occupying the apex of the triangle bounded by Court, Main and Broad streets, including the court house grounds. It had three lives; first a blacksmith shop, then a country tavern, and, for three quarters of a century, a dwelling, familiarly spoken of as the "Ross Mansion," the home of one of the oldest and brainiest families of the county.

The ground this historic house stood upon was part of the "Free Society of Traders" tract; then to Jonathan Kirkbride; to William Doyle, in 1737 the first appearance of the founder of our county's capital; to John Robinson; to Joseph and Jesse Fell, prior to the Revolution, who built a smith shop on the southeast side of the road leading from Easton to Philadelphia, near where Main and Court streets cross. Here Joseph pounded iron, shod oxen and horses, repaired country carts and discussed with his neighbors the quarrel between Britain and her colonies. The Fells were Quakers as they are to-day, and Joseph owned the Mann farm on the New Hope pike just beyond the borough dam. In 1788 Joseph Fell bought his brother's interest, the latter removing to the Wyoming Valley, where he kept tavern, sat upon the bench and took a hand in teaching the industrial world how to burn hard coal in a grate. In 1802 this triangle fell into the possession of Nathaniel Shew-

ell, of Paineswick Hall, and he parted with the last of it in 1815. The smithy was the germ of the tavern and mansion, and it was no trouble for the genealogist to read their ancestry and descent in the rude arches over the cellar windows, and in the masonry of the southeast corner.

When reasonably assured that Doylestown would be the new county seat, Nathaniel Shewell enlarged the ancient smithy to a two-story attic house, extending the southwest front to Main street, two rooms on each story. This improvement was plainly to be distinguished by better stone and finer dressing, especially at the corners. Further addition was made before, or after, the house got license, including the hall and sitting and dining-rooms. The kitchen and library were built to the east end after the property came into possession of the Ross family.

While Lear and Flack were tearing down the old building to erect the bank, a discovery was made that settles a disputed point. On two of the beam fillings at the top of the Court street wall, near the southeast corner, scratched in the fresh mortar were the letters "N. S. and G. S., 1811," the former, undoubtedly, standing for "Nathaniel Shewell," the owner of the property, and the latter for some other member of that family. This record cannot be successfully disputed. In the middle of the dwelling, not including the hallway that ran through the house from southeast to northwest, was a heavy stone wall extending up to the comb of the roof, and on it was found a dressed chimney top; additional evidence the small southeast corner room, first story, was a smith shop. The building may have been extended to its northeast limit in 1811, for when Shewell offered it for sale, in 1812, he described the house as a new stone house, 50x32 feet, having three fronts; a stone barn with convenient double sheds, 95 feet long, and a stone smith shop. The smith shop had probably been rebuilt across Main street, in front of the Thompson house, where charcoal and other debris of a smithy were turned up over forty years ago in digging foundations for a hay scale. As Shewell did not sell his Indian Queen he concluded to rent it, and we now come to its history as a tavern.

And who were the landlords that watched over the destiny of this new tavern at the new county seat? The first on the roll is Frederick Nicholas. Of him we know nothing, except that he was refused license, elsewhere, a short time before. He took possession of the Indian Queen about the first of April, 1813; occupied it two years, and, on the first of April, 1815, he was succeeded by Mathew Hare who removed from the Ship Tavern. In a newspaper notice of his change of location, he says he had "given up the ship," and hoped "by particular attention to the duties of a public house keeper, to reinstate a portion of his old shipmates." Hare was an old landlord, and we think a Warwick man.

On the first of April, 1816, Stephen Brock, whose acquaintance we made at the "Doylestown Hotel," assumed the baton of authority at the Indian Queen. His license was issued at the April session, and renewed the following February. On taking possession he made the following announcement in the columns of a



Miners' newspaper of the 9th of April:

"Friends at a distance, and neighbors near."

"I have taken Shewell's convenient tavern stand in Doylestown, near the Court House, at the door of which the Indian Queen exhibits herself in all kinds of weather, her spirits neither depressed by clouds nor raised by sunshine. I have liquors of a good quality, and have made comfortable provision for the weary traveler, including provender for his horses; and, having a disposition to live by the provision, I pledge myself to use every proper exertion to give satisfaction to those who may frequent the inn of Stephen Brock."

Mr. Brock was a picturesque person and, as an innkeeper, surpassed by none. He was genial and popular, and an important factor in county politics. No man could play the part of candidate for office with greater success, and he was charged with enrolling the mothers on his side in politics by kissing the children and giving them candy. His strength among the voters was so great, that, on two occasions, he ran as an independent candidate for sheriff against the field and was elected. In his first race, in 1821, when returned by 983 majority, he announced his candidacy in a card, which starts off by saying: "I am no grandee, nor caucus man, nor political intriguer; but a plain man," and the people seem to have thought so, for they elected him. There was always a vein of humor about him. In the Spring of 1825 when he moved out to the Cross Keys, he announced that instead of having "shifted his quarters to the Lake country, the Cherokee settlements, or any other outlandish region," he "had only removed to the sign of the Cross Keys, lately kept by Peter Adame, Esq., on the Easton Road, one mile from Doylestown."

Mr. Brock left the Indian Queen April 1, 1818, and William McHenry, father of the late Charles McHenry of Doylestown, succeeded him. The new host came of an old Irish family, and his immediate ancestor was the Rev. Francis McHenry, a distinguished Presbyterian divine. He was a watchmaker by trade and carried it on while keeping the house. He was followed by Abram Black, whose pet name was "Walabocker," not at all classic, but affectionate, who moved up from the Black Bear, where he had kept seven years. He was at the Queen in 1821-22. In 1815 Shewell sold the property to William Watts, who came up from Newtown with the removal of the county seat. He had held more than one row office, and was subsequently Associate Judge. At the end of Mr. Black's two years, Mr. Watts took out a license in his own name and kept it for two years, 1823-24. We know of no occurrence out of the ordinary routine of life at a country tavern while he kept it, and, in the latter year, Mr. Watts sold the property to Judge John Ross, recently appointed to the Common Pleas Bench of the district. The deed is dated May 25.

The life of this historic tavern now comes to an end, and the new owner puts it to other uses; the Indian Queen is transformed into a dwelling, and used for this purpose to the end of its days almost three quarters of a century. Three generations of lawyers were reared and trained under its roof for the paths marked out for them in life. Many of us have a vivid recollection of the elegant

woman who presided over the Ross mansion, of the pride she took in her intellectual sons, and with what grief she mourned the daughter of the house cut off in the pride of womanhood. Many pleasant, as well as sad memories linger about the old homestead.

The Court Inn, legitimately follows the Indian Queen, and may almost be called its child. It was a modest frame until Mr. Helst improved it. When built we do not know, but it was probably transformed into a tavern soon after the Indian Queen retired to private life. It will be remembered that William Watts sold the Queen to Judge Ross in 1824, and he was the first, or one of the first, landlords of the Court Inn. He left it the first of November, 1826, his goods being sold at public vendue, October 26. He was doubtless the owner, for he mentions in his advertisement, that he had "rented both his tavern and farm." Among the stock sold at his vendue was a pair of beautiful cream bays, known as "Lafayette horses," very much the fad after Lafayette's visit in 1824. They were two of the six horses of that color that drew the Marquis through the streets of Philadelphia when he visited that city.

William Field succeeded Watts, taking possession of the house the fourth of November. He was still there in 1832, and, on the 28th of October, married his second wife, Eliza Gordon, of Doylestown. The "Doylestown coachee," running to and from Philadelphia, carrying the mail, put up at the Court Inn, and Field probably owned it, as he was proprietor of a stage line in 1832. Watts still owned the house in the Spring of '32, when William T. Rogers offered it for sale as his agent. The house was robbed the night of April 15, 1830, while Field occupied it, and a number of articles stolen, including a dozen silver spoons, marked with the initial "D," and belonged to his first wife. It is possible Field did not occupy the house continuously from 1826 to 1832. If he left in 1832, he may have lived privately until 1834, when he moved into the Mansion House. There is a break in the line of landlords, and our Quarter Sessions records do not help us out. Crispin Blackfan, of Solebury, while Prothonotary in the 20's kept the Court Inn, and his son, Joseph H., told me he was born there. In future years the son held an important position in the Post Office Department, and was "Superintendent of Foreign Mails" for a long time. John Welkel kept the house in 1842, and George H. Wyker in 1844, who, at the time of moving into it, announced in one of the town newspapers that he "had absquatulated from the old stand on the Easton road, two miles below the Willow Grove, and has squatted down at Doylestown at the Court Inn."

Wyker was followed by Joseph Strawn. "Pappy" Strawn, as he was called, and license was granted him at the April term 1846. He kept the house twenty years, and developed a number of peculiarities of character. He had a certain time for closing, and the rule was as rigid as the laws of the Medes and Persians. The hour was ten o'clock, and if guests were at the bar taking a "night cap" it made no difference they had to go. He had great faith in the moon, and watched it closely, and, as age grew upon him, began to predict and prophesy. One of his peculiarities



was his dislike to negroes, and, with a single exception, none of this race was allowed to drink at his bar. This was Peter Jackson, a negro of the old school, tall and dignified, and a constant attendant upon the officers in the hey day of our county military. Strawn had an only son, Clayton, who, after serving in the war of 1861-65, went to sea with a couple of his companions, and sailing the south seas over in different vessels, they met at Honolulu. The other two came home but Strawn remained; contracted leprosy, was sent to the island where such unfortunates are confined, and finally became the Governor. One of Strawn's daughters married William Beek, who built the first exhibition building on the Doylestown Fair Grounds, in 1855; which was blown down that Fall, after a great fair at which Horace Greeley and a baby exhibit were the drawing cards. Allen H. Helst succeeded Strawn at the Court Inn in 1866 and to him the house is indebted for all the modern improvements. He first erected the brick back building and then the front structure, the original frame, having to give way to the demands for better accommodations.

The third tavern, in the court house group, was the stone house at the northeast corner of Main and Broad street, now owned and occupied by Webster Grim, Esq. It was a licensed house for many years under the name of the "Green Tree," a sign bearing this emblem, swinging in front of it. This was the third tavern that had its birth in the transfer of the county seat from Newtown to Doylestown, and built by Septimus Evans for a dwelling, prior to 1813. Evans, a clock and watch maker by trade, was here before 1807 and married Catharine Houpt, of Durham, March 11, 1811. He obtained license in 1813, 14 and 15, and kept it as a tavern these years, but, wishing to go elsewhere, sold it to Daniel Woodruff in the Fall of 1815, and he probably moved into it the first of April, 1816. He announced himself as the "landlord of the Green Tree Inn," on taking possession, the first mention of the name we have seen. To what place Evans removed and when he left Doylestown we do not know, but we find him following his trade at Jenkintown in 1821. He was the father of the late Henry S. Evans, many years proprietor and editor of the *Village Record*, West Chester, probably the most valuable country newspaper in Pa., and served two terms in the State Senate. He was born in Doylestown, and no doubt under the roof of the Green Tree.

A new landlord took possession in the Spring of 1817, a village tailor by the name of John Randall, and the second of this craft who became a boniface in our town. During his occupancy of the house a stranger and a traveler died there, William Dennison Burroughs, of the State of New York, who had taken a raft down the Delaware to Philadelphia, and was attacked with pleurisy on his return. We are not informed how long Randall kept the house, nor who were the intervening landlords, if any, but we do know that Margaret Kiple kept it in 1822-23, leaving it the first of April the latter year. Joseph Burrows, the father of the "Citizens' House" of which more later on, bought the property in the

Spring of '23 and moved in as Mrs. Kiple went out. Burrows, who was still there in 1826, announced that "Mineral water of the best quality, and ice cream equal to Philadelphia manufacture, can be had on Thursday and Saturday evenings. These were luxuries at that day. Mr. Burrows wife, Sarah, died in Philadelphia June 30, 1824. He left the tavern prior to 1828, and began keeping a flour and feed store in Doylestown, being succeeded at the Green Tree by Henry Carver, subsequently elected Brigade Inspector. Carver was there in '28, and William Field from '29 to '31.

Thomas Purdy, of Southampton, father of ex-Sheriff John M. Purdy, was the next landlord to rule over the Green Tree, his administration beginning April 1, 1831. William Purdy, his father, having been recently appointed Prothonotary of the county, by Governor Wolf, father and son, that Spring, came to Doylestown and occupied the tavern. The license was taken out in the name of the son. The Purdys left the Green Tree in the Spring of 1833; the father removing to the house now occupied by Arthur Lehman, corner of State street and Printers' alley, where he died in 1834, the son going to the Black Bear, Northampton township, where he kept store a few years in the Stuckert storehouse, and then removed to his father's farm in Southampton. He died there in the Fall of 1844, two years after his election to the Sheriff's office. Among the subsequent landlords were Benjamin Carver, the successor of Purdy; Kirk J. Price, who kept the house in 1836; Theodore Kinsey, who left the tavern to engage in the lightning rod business, and, striking it at the flood, led on to fortune; Joel Vasey, who left the Green Tree in 1849, to give place to Abram R. Kram, the bartender for Lewis Apple at the Citizens' House. License was granted to both Apple and Vasey at the April Term, 1846. The Green Tree gave up the ghost as a licensed house sometime in the Spring of '54, and, since then, has been occupied as a residence by various persons.

The fourth, and last, of the group of taverns that encircled the court house was the "Citizens' House," known by other names to the present generation, but practically the same building now occupied by Scheetz's stores, Southwest corner of Court and Pine. It was built by Joseph Burrows, in 1830-31, for a temperance house; finished in the Winter and opened in March. It was a frame. One of the newspapers of the village announced on December 7, 1830, that the "Citizens' House," is now ready for the reception of jurors, boarders and others, by the proprietor, Joseph Burrows. The advertisement was headed "New Establishment." At that time there were no buildings on the south side of Court street between the Academy and Printers' alley, where Barton Stuart's log barn stood. It was enlarged and improved by the several owners.

In 1835 the proprietor of this Temperance House, whomever he may have been, was the possessor of a handsome collection of birds, insects, fishes, minerals, etc., collected by the son of a Mr. Myers, supposed to be the landlord. They were the cause of attraction. An article that appeared in the *Intelligencer*, of May 13, 1835, signed "Subscriber" pays the following compliment to this hostelry, and its collection of curios:



"Being at court last week, I had a curiosity to visit this establishment, and rarely have I spent a half hour more agreeably than in examining the collection of birds, minerals, sculpture and paintings, with which one of the rooms of the Inn is so tastefully decorated. The skill displayed in the arrangement of the specimens deserves praise, and the collection is highly creditable to the place." At what time the house obtained license is not known, but it was probably after 1836, when Kirk J. Price removed hither from the Green Tree. This is supposed to have been about 1839, and that William Field was the first landlord after license was granted. He left it the Spring of 1841, and removed to the Mount Vernon House, Philadelphia, the second Doylestown landlord to try his fortune at that then famous house. After license was obtained the name was changed to that of "Citizens' House," and retained it to the end of its days as a tavern. Stephen Brock succeeded Field the Spring he left, and kept the house for five years, removing to the Cross Keys in 1846. When he took charge he headed his notice in the newspapers, "Brock against the field," and it was literally true. While he kept the house it was the centre of much of the social life of Bucks county's capital. Mr. Brock's two agreeable daughters, and three popular sons, were important factors in making it attractive during their father's administration. The Summer of 1845 was especially gay; the house was filled with boarders, among them several attractive girls from the city. Cotillion parties, in the large dining-room, were of almost of nightly occurrence, and picnics frequent. Some hearts were touched, and, in after years, matches made by those who first met there. I was then in Doylestown and joined in these innocent pleasures, and, in after years, when standing in that empty dining-room, and contemplating past delights, it seemed "like some banquet hall deserted."

Ex Sheriff Charles H. Mann succeeded Mr. Brock in the Spring of 1846, and kept the house until he removed to the Fountain House in 1849, which he bought of Pettit. The landlords in rotation, from Mann, were Lewis Apple, who moved from Opp's; J. Wilson Cowell, son of Joseph Cowell, of Point Pleasant, whose tavern was quite famous in its day, and where J. Wilson got his early training. His oldest daughter married James Vanhorne, cashier of Hatboro National Bank; William C. Knight, of Southampton, bought the house in 1863; kept it two years then he returned to Southampton where he died in 1877; Thomas P. Miller, son of Mahlon Miller who kept the famous Black Bear many years; who made some valuable improvements, and was succeeded by ex Sheriff Purdy in the Spring of 1876. Morgan Rufe bought the house of Purdy, in 1883, and altered it for a general store. After Rufe's death it was bought by A. F. Scheetz whose sons conduct mercantile business in it. In its prime, the Citizens' House was the first public house of the county seat. Its nearness to the court house helped its patronage, and, when the four-horse mail stages ran between Easton and Philadelphia, before the days of railroads, they stopped there to change horses and dine, coming into town to the music of the driver's horn.

In the forties and early fifties, while

Judges Krause and Smyser were upon the Bench, they made the Citizens' House their headquarters while holding court. This made it the resort of the members of the Bar, much more than a similar cause would influence them now. After court had adjourned for the day it was no unusual thing to see almost the entire Bar at this popular hostelry, spending all, or part, of the evening, talking politics, discussing points of law, indulging in jokes, and, not infrequently, seasoned with wit. When the weather was mild enough to sit out of doors the company would gather on the broad pavement in front of the house. The late Thomas Ross took great delight in these social-professional gatherings, and was the life of the assemblage. His gold snuff box played no mean part, for when that was taken out and passed around, it was equivalent to serving notice on the company there was fun ahead. More than one fellow member of the Bar suffered from the keenness of his wit.

At one time, away back in the 30's, the post office was in the Citizens' House, kept in the cellar under the southwest end, and was entered by an open stairway from Court street. Randall Maddock was the Postmaster, and, if tradition be at all truthful, he carried the letters round town in his hat. Our postal service has grown very considerably in the last sixty years.

The "Spring House Tavern," at whose front swung the sign of the "Bucks County Farmer" near a century ago, and, at this time, is known as the "Clear Spring Hotel," is one of the oldest taverns in Doylestown. When built and by whom; when first licensed to sell the "ardent," and the name of the first landlord, we are not informed. But one fact we do know, and that points to its longevity; it was a public house at the dawn of the century, years before any one dreamed the little hamlet at the crossing of the Easton road and that from Coryell's Ferry to the Schuylkill would ever become the county's capital.

As long ago as 1806 this tavern was owned and kept by John Worman, doubtless the same who was carrying on tailoring in Doylestown just before this time. On December 6 he advertised his tavern for sale in "Germany," the name that end of our borough has borne from that time to the present, with twenty-three acres of land. He says in a partial description of the premises, "the house has two fronts, each 50x20 feet, with a good kitchen." As Landlord Worman did not succeed in selling his tavern he concluded to remain, and stayed there until April 1, 1809, when he removed to Philadelphia to the sign of "The Drover," Third and Callowhill. Who followed Worman at the Spring House we do not know, but the next we hear of the tavern it was owned by John Ledley Dick, who probably bought it of Worman. He was still the owner in 1813, and possibly longer. On August 30 he offered it at public sale under the name of the "Spring House, sign of the Bucks County Farmer." At this time Jacob Overholt was keeping it. The house was spoken of as a "New stone building, with a living spring of water near its base," and in full view of the public buildings, Doylestown. This tallies well with what may be said of it now. Just previous to vacating the premises Overholt advertised a "Fox Chase," in Asher Miner's newspaper, in the following terms:



"A handsome fox will be let out from the Bucks County Farmers' Inn, in Doylestown, when all, who are fond of innocent sport, are invited to attend with good dogs and fleet horses." We are not informed how the fox chase terminated, nor who took the brush.

Mr. Dick, with three sisters, came from Belfast, Ireland, in the first decade of the century and settled at Doylestown. They are supposed to have been the children of a Presbyterian minister. He took to business, bought the tannery in Germany and carried it on. One of the sisters became the wife of Dr Charles Meredith, and the brother married a daughter of William Erwin, of Erwinna. The death of Mr. Dick was surrounded with pathetic circumstances, and great sadness. The typhus fever was epidemic in Doylestown, in the Winter of 1815, and he was one of the victims, dying February 18, after a few days' illness. He was the first person buried in the Presbyterian graveyard. A young member of the Bar, and Mr. Dick's intimate associate and friend, and who was with him in his last moments, in a letter written to a friend in the lower end of the county, thus speaks of this sad event:

"My friend, John L. Dick, died to day at 2 p. m., of the typhus fever. How frail is man! Ten days ago he was in the vigor of health. Alas, how visionary our hopes of earthly happiness; but two months since he married Miss Erwin, the daughter of the richest man of the county. How soon their fondest anticipations of future bliss and domestic felicity were destroyed." The writer of this letter caught the fever of Dick and died in a few days--himself, mother, sister, and a young lady, a member of the family, all dying in the same house within two weeks.

In 1816, Valentine Opp, of Springfield township moved down to Doylestown and occupied the Clear Spring, of which he was landlord and owner for many years. He was succeeded by his son. The tavern was in the occupancy of the Opp family until 1843. Peter Opp, who served through the Mexican War, was a grandson of Valentine. Mrs. Clementine Constantine, daughter of Valentine Opp, died at Doylestown, October 7, 1896, in her 88th year. When the Opps left the tavern in 1843, Lewis Apple moved in, remaining there until 1846, when he went to the Citizens' House. Apple was succeeded at the Clear Spring by Thomas Scotland, and a number of others down to the present time, whose comings and outgoings are known to the present generation.

A few words and our story is concluded, of the nine old taverns we have discoursed about, and which in their best days, yielded great influence, six have been rapped from the rolls of licensed houses, and but three remain, the Fountain and Monument Houses, and the Clear Spring. As we call the roll of their landlords, a rather remarkable fact presents itself, eight of them, with one proprietor, five in office of High Sheriff, and one was vice-elected; they were Stephen Brock, M. Field, Benjamin Morris, Thos. Purdy, Jas. B. Mori, John M. Purdy, Allen B. Mori, and John F. Simpson. Two of these landlords, but not included in the number named, came of distinguished ancestry; one descended from an officer who accompanied William the Conqueror to England, and was knighted by the first of Hastings,

while another came in direct descent from Lord Mayor of London, three hundred years ago. But one new tavern has been erected in Doylestown in sixty-five years; and, it is a creditable fact, that in the last fifty years, while our population has increased the number of our public houses has decreased. When our borough had but five hundred inhabitants, it contained seven licensed houses; now, with a population of 3,000, it has only four, and has not had a greater number in twenty-five years. With this record Doylestown's increase in temperance and sobriety cannot be called in question.

## GROWDEN MANSION.

### Sketch of the Residence of One of the Colonial Families.

A Paper Read before the Bucks County Historical Society by Henry W. Watson, Esq., of Langhorne, at the Midwinter Meeting at Doylestown, January 19, '97.

In the lower end of Bucks county, on the banks of the Neshaminy creek, stands a mansion of historical importance. The history connected with this old place is more than local as it was the first pretentious manor-house erected within the province of Pennsylvania.

There dwelt the Growdens, one of the prominent and distinguished families of Bucks county in the early Colonial days.

The influential settlers of the county were mostly Friends. The Growdens belonged to this religious denomination, and the family lived for a generation in accordance with the discipline of that association.

Joseph Growden was the first of the family to emigrate to America. He came from Cornwell, England, and received from William Penn a grant of ten thousand acres. One portion of it embraced nearly half of Bensalem township. On this part of the grant he built his residence, and maintained a baronial establishment, which he called Trevoze.

Gabriel Thomas in his book entitled "An Historical Description of the Province of Pennsylvania," published in London in 1698, describes the Growden mansion as situated on the Neshaminy river, and further says that "Judge Growden hath a very noble and fine house, very pleasantly situated; and likewise a famous orchard adjoining to it, wherein are contained above a thousand apple trees of various sorts."

It may not be amiss to quote further from this antiquated book, as it describes the morals of the country at that time. He writes "Of lawyers and physicians I shall say nothing, because the country is very peaceful and wealthy; long may it so continue, and never have occasion for the tongue of one, nor the pen of the other, both equally disturbers of men's estates and lives, besides, torsooth, they hangman like, have a license to murder



and make mischief."

The Growden house was built about 1685, and was situated on the old mail route road, leading from Philadelphia to New York. When this highway was abandoned half a century ago, it left the dwelling in a somewhat obsolete and secluded spot. It is a two story stone building with an attic, a wide hall through the centre, and a winding staircase. Extending from the two northern corners, are wings of two stories each, and built in proportion to correspond with the size of the mansion. The west wing was originally occupied by Richard Gibbs, secretary to Judge Growden, and the east end was used for a kitchen, and the quarters for slaves.

A few feet east of the house is a stone building about fifteen feet square, it originally had a brick arch roof and a large open fire place. This was William Growden's office. Here were kept the early records of Bucks county, latter valuable documents belonging to the State, as well as important papers and correspondence of Benjamin Franklin. This building is now used for a carriage house, but there still remains an iron window shutter, which is pierced with bullet holes, made by a squad of soldiers in 1778. They went there to arrest Joseph Galloway, who married the granddaughter of Joseph Growden, and afterward became a Tory. The office was broken open, and the records of the county strewed about and destroyed.

Joseph Growden was a member of the assembly in 1685 from Philadelphia. In 1693 he was elected to represent Bucks county in the general assembly, and served as speaker for a number of consecutive terms. He was appointed a provincial judge in 1706, and one of the judges of the Supreme Court in 1715. Proud speaks of him as being Attorney General in 1725.

David Lloyd a man of prominence married Grace the daughter of James Growden. Janney in his life of William Penn described Mr. Lloyd to be a man "of considerable ability, and in private life bore a fair character, but in his public career, he was a disturber, that knew no peace in himself, nor permitted any in others."

William Penn was an admirer and an intimate friend of the Growdens. An incident is related that upon the occasion of the death of a little grandson of Joseph Growden, and the son of his daughter Grace Lloyd, William Penn writes to a friend in these affectionate words: "Poor Grace has borne her affliction to admiration."

David Lloyd was evidently a politician, as he became the leader of "the popular party" in opposition to William Penn. Mr. Lloyd was elected to the general assembly, and was chosen speaker during one term. Lloyd's party took the advantage of the opportunity to strengthen their cause while Penn was on a visit to London. A letter written to Penn, by his secretary James Logan at the time, describing the political situation, also proves that Joseph Growden was looked upon by Penn, as a man of influence. The letter says: "Thy friends are deeply grieved at these proceedings and sympathize with thee, nay more, Joseph Growden declares his abhorrence of them, and their proceedings against thee." Penn in his reply to

this letter speaks of his enemies as "illegitimate Quakers."

Joseph Growden died September 10th, 1730, and his son, Laurence, inherited the greater part of his father's estate. Laurence Growden was also a member of the Assembly from Bucks county, and was several times speaker of the House. In 1739, he was appointed one of the Commissioners to run and lay out the division line between Pennsylvania and Maryland. He died in 1769 and left two children Elizabeth and Grace. The Trevoose mansion, and the tract, containing the mines and furnaces, were allotted to his daughter Grace, the wife of Joseph Galloway.

Joseph Galloway was born in Maryland in 1730 and was the son of Peter Galloway, who claimed to be a descendant from the Earl of Galloway. Mr. Galloway was educated in Philadelphia, where he afterwards read law. He was a man of marked talent, and arose to power and fortune, and was distinguished as one of the leading lawyers of the Province. Upon the death of his brother-in-law, Laurence Growden, he became the resident of the Growden mansion. Joseph Galloway was a member of the Assembly from Bucks county in 1765, and was successively returned until the year 1774. He was chosen several times speaker of the House. He was one of the secret partners of the *Chronicle*, a paper published in Philadelphia. The *Chronicle* was the fourth newspaper published in America in the English language, and the first with four columns. He was an intimate friend of Benjamin Franklin, the latter staying for days at a time at his Bucks county home.

Joseph Galloway was appointed by the delegates from Pennsylvania a member of the General Congress, which met in Philadelphia in 1774. He believed that Great Britain and the colonies should settle the differences amicably and without bloodshed. After hostilities had commenced, he upheld the British, and joined them in Philadelphia. He was rewarded by being made their General Superintendent in that district. He afterward went to New York and was appointed Secretary of the Commander-in-chief of the British army.

After the close of the war, his property was confiscated, and he was compelled to leave America for his safety.

He wrote a number of pamphlets which were received by the public with favor. After he joined the British he published one against Sir William Howe, in which he endeavored to show that he lost the conquest of the American colonies from his love of entertainment and pleasure. In consequence of this paper, Mr. Galloway, upon his arrival in England, was examined before the House of Commons, as to the transactions in America during the war. His accounts created a sensation and were heralded throughout England. He afterwards became a British pensioner and died near London, in 1803 at the age of seventy-three.

Elizabeth Galloway, the daughter of Joseph Galloway, known in history as Betsey Galloway, was a great belle and an attractive woman. Among her many suitors was a Mr. Griffens, who became a judge in his matured years, and whom



her father prevented from eloping by shooting him in his own house. She afterwards was more successful and eloped with William Roberts, a British officer, although her father had threatened to receive him in the same cordial manner he had favored Mr. Griffen. This union, however, proved an unhappy one, and a separation soon followed the marriage. They had an only child, Grace Ann. One of the articles of the agreement of the separation was that her father would only be allowed to see her but once a year, on a certain day, at a given hour, and in the presence of a witness—on one of these occasions he attended Middletown Friends' Meeting to hear the eminent preacher, James Simpson. During the sermon Mr. Roberts looked at his watch, and finding the hour had arrived when he might see his child, arose and went out of meeting. This created a great disturbance, and was the subject of much comment after the close of the service. Such behavior in a Friends meeting in those early times was considered a high breach of decorum. So much so, had he been a member he would have been dealt with for disorderly conduct.

The Galloways lived in accordance with their social position and wealth. The following extract from an old diary gives, perhaps, an intelligent idea how they were looked upon by the community in which they lived. I shall quote the exact words: "The Galloway family lived in great style and were looked upon as great folks by the people in the neighborhood. Grace and her daughter, Elizabeth, would ride out in their coach and four horses, and pay their visits in the neighborhood, which were but select—Jane Collison, Grace Kirkbride, Mary Richardson and her daughters. Mary and Ruth, were the only persons in the neighborhood they visited, and they but once a year. They would stay and take tea; the horses must not be taken from the coach, but stand before the door, and the driver stand by and mind them until they were ready to go home. They also kept a chariot." After a long and tedious legal proceeding greater part of the property, belonging to the estate of Joseph Galloway, which was confiscated, was finally restored to his wife, as he derived it through her. His granddaughter, Grace Ann, inherited her mother's share of the Growden estate. She married Benjamin Burton, a British officer, and settled in England, where she died in 1837. Nine years afterwards her share of the Growden estate was sold by her children, which realized a large sum.

The homestead was purchased by George Williamson. It afterward became the property of Charles W. Taylor, and upon his death in 1893, passed into the possession of his children, who now occupy the old mansion. From Lawrence Growden to the Burtons, a period of nearly one hundred and fifty years, the Growden estates descended to female heirs, as there were no male heirs during that long period.

About 1844 a chest filled with old china was found near the mansion, while a laborer was digging a post hole. In 1888 a second box of china was discovered at the same spot. These undoubtedly belonged to the Galloway family and were retained during the Revolutionary times. The Growdens took a prominent part

in forming the laws of the province. They were loyal to the colonies, and were foremost in appealing to the governors for more liberal laws as England year by year made her edicts more exacting.

The mansion is as solid as when it was built, 200 years ago. There have been but slight changes to alter the outside appearance. This old house in its day has seen many a distinguished guest. Here Penn held council, and laws were formed for the better government of the colonies. Here Franklin discussed the laws of electricity, whereby he brought from the heavens the power that moves the mechanical world. Here the eminent but erratic Galloway lived, who opposed the separation of the colonies, and whose influence was so strong with Congress that those members who favored independence recognized his force and took urgent measures against him. This old mansion is worthy of consideration by those who are interested in historical researches.

## GEN. JACOB BROWN.

### Bucks County's Hero of the War of 1812.

Sketch of a Brave Warrior Read before the Bucks County Historical Society, at Doylestown, January 19, 1897, by Rev. D. K. Turner, of Hartsville.

Many of the native citizens of this county took part in the war which the Government of the United States felt compelled to declare against Great Britain in 1812. None of them, however, rose to such eminent distinction as Gen. Jacob Brown, and it seems not inappropriate to spend a little time in dwelling upon his life, his character and his achievements.

Born in Falls township about three and a half miles below Morrisville, near the banks of the Delaware River, May 9, 1775, he was fourth in descent from one of the earliest settlers of Pennsylvania. His father, Samuel Brown, was a faithful member of the Society of Friends. His ancestors had lived in the county almost a hundred years, and the family were deeply imbued with love for America and her institutions, though there is no evidence that any of them disregarded the requirements of their religious faith by taking up arms to engage in warfare. During his childhood the Revolutionary struggle with Great Britain was in progress, and he heard much said, no doubt, at his home and in the neighborhood about the marches, campaigns and battles of Washington's forces, and their efforts to win freedom from the unjust exactions of the English government. The locality in which he spent his younger days was often approached, if not visited, by the American troops, and his mind must have been impressed by the warlike events which were taking place around him. Probably to this fact may be traced the



inclination, which afterward appeared in his history, to enter upon a military career.

He enjoyed slender advantages for acquiring an education. At the period of his youth schools were few in number and widely scattered, and he gained from teachers only the simple rudiments of learning. But like many others, who have made their mark in the world, he endeavored to train his own mind and to secure knowledge by reading and study in private. So successful was he in these exertions, that at the age of eighteen he began teaching at Crosswicks, N. J., eight miles from Trenton, where there was a Friends' meeting, under whose special care probably the school was. Not far from three years elapsed in this congenial employment, and during this time he enlarged his acquaintance with the science and practice of surveying land.

When he reached his majority in 1796 he went to Cincinnati, Ohio, then a small, straggling village, surrounded by an almost pathless wilderness. The infant city was laid out in 1788, only eight years previously, on a patent of land obtained by John Cleves Symmes, of New Jersey, and was settled by a colony from that State. Probably the subject of this sketch and he were acquainted, as they were together in some of the same battles in the last war with England, and it may have been through Symmes' influence that Brown turned his steps toward the West. His journey from Pittsburgh was made down the Ohio River on a boat, or ark, managed by oars and poles, the only means of transportation at that early day between the two places. In 1790, six years before his visit, emigrants passing down the broad stream were often fired on by Indians from the banks, as they and their goods slowly floated by. But two years before his coming a line of keel boats was established, that were protected by breastworks with loop holes for the use of muskets, which occupied four weeks in the lonely voyage, and it was doubtless on a craft of this kind that he arrived safely at his destination.

People in considerable numbers were pressing into the rich country of the Miami, and the services of the surveyor were often needed. In this business Brown engaged with industry and success a year or two, when he returned East, and was appointed Principal of a Friends' school in New York City. This position he resigned after a brief period, being ambitious to advance his fortunes more rapidly than he could do in the uneventful, though honorable, calling of an instructor of youth. While in the city he had more facilities for studying jurisprudence than elsewhere, and employed his leisure hours in gaining acquaintance with the principles of law, though he did not carry it so far as to be admitted to the Bar.

In 1799 he was attracted to Jefferson county, N. Y., then a region covered with primeval forests, near Lake Ontario, of which the principal town was Sackett's Harbor. Hither also at this juncture his father and his family removed from Bucks county. Here he surveyed, bought and sold lands, and under the superintendence of father and son the first house was built in the town, named for them, Brownsville. His speculations in real estate were highly successful; his property, judiciously man-

aged, increased, and he became one of the most widely-known and esteemed citizens of the northern part of New York. When the militia was organized, early in this century, he was appointed Colonel of a regiment, and ere long made Brigadier General. Attentive to his duties, firm and strict in discipline, yet kind and considerate toward the soldiers in the ranks, he was a respected and popular officer, and won the confidence of the highest authorities of the Commonwealth.

The arrogance of England in forcibly taking seamen from American vessels, whom she claimed as her subjects, and impressing them into her navy, and other haughty, selfish measures contrary to the law of nations, brought on war between that country and our own. As was expected, the border between Canada and the United States became the theatre, in which was enacted an important part of the conflict. General Brown was directed to take command of a brigade in defence of the northern frontier. He had not been trained in the regular army, and had never gained experience by passing through campaigns or battles. But he possessed those natural traits, courage, decision, quickness of apprehension, self-reliance, steadiness, perseverance and ability to command, which, when called into action by propitious circumstances, constitute a successful military general, and where others failed, he won distinguished renown and greatly benefitted the cause of his country.

The first important service he performed in the field was in October, 1812, when the British made an attack upon Ogdensburg, on the St. Lawrence. With 750 men, they attempted to cross the river in boats, under cover of a fire from guns at Prescott's, on the Canada side. The Americans had a battery of two cannon and a body of militia under General Brown. Though the enemy fought with conspicuous bravery and determination more than an hour, yet they were repulsed, losing three killed and four wounded, when they took to their boats and hurriedly escaped. This success highly encouraged those raw troops, who had known scarcely anything of actual war before, and correspondingly elevated their commander in their esteem.

On the 25th of April, 1813, Generals Pike and Dearborn of our army with 1,600 selected troops left Sackett's Harbor in vessels on Lake Ontario, as was supposed, to attack Kingston, which was just across on the Canadian shore, but they actually proceeded westward, and after a sail of two days reached the vicinity of York, the germ of the flourishing city of Toronto. Here were large quantities of military stores and provisions, belonging to the enemy, which it was desirable to capture or destroy. The British resisted the landing of our soldiers, but were compelled to give way before their impetuous charge, and retreated to their principal fortifications. Our men, forming on the bank of the river, marched three miles in pursuit of the foe, and were about to storm the works, when the magazine containing an immense quantity of powder exploded with tremendous force. It was not certainly known whether this happened accidentally or by design on the part of the British.

The shock was like an earthquake on



land and water. Stones, debris and timbers were thrown far and wide, even on to the decks of our vessels in the river. Between one and two hundred Americans were killed and some of the English. The two Aides of General Pike and he himself were among the victims. The General was literally stoned to death in the moment of victory; his breast and sides were crushed, and after a few hours of agony he ceased to breathe. As he was lifted from the ground he heard a shout, and asked what it meant. An officer near answered, "The British Union Jack is coming down, and the Stars and Stripes are being raised in its place." This revived the flickering flame of life, and being carried on board the Commodore's ship, he requested that the captured flag be placed under his head, and in this position it was when he expired. He was one of the heroes who have sacrificed their lives for the honor and independence of their country. The victory achieved here should have been followed by the pursuit and detention of the garrison; but Gen. Dearborn, remaining on his vessel, allowed the regular English troops to escape, and secured as prisoners the Canadian militia alone, who were at once paroled and dismissed. The stores seized upon were conveyed away in our ships to Sackett's Harbor, were by a misapprehension they were soon after burned. We lost about 300 men and the enemy 500, mostly wounded. We realized little benefit by this engagement, though victory perched upon our banners. Those, who made good their retreat, lived to fight again, and were used by the English in hostile operations all the remainder of the Summer.

To offset our good fortune at York, the enemy a month later fitted out an expedition against Sackett's Harbor. On the 28th of May they advanced upon the town from the northern shore of the St. Lawrence with 900 men in eight vessels and 30 boats. To oppose them the Americans had 800 men of the line and 500 militia, the latter under Gen. Brown; he was requested, however, by Gen. Dearborn to take command of the entire force, to which he acceded, and the direction of the whole battle was in his care.

The first day the Indians, who were aiding the British, cut off some American boats, but effected little more. Our yeomen soldiery were unaccustomed to meeting savages. They had heard of their fiendish cruelty in torturing prisoners, and dreaded coming into their power. The English denied that they encouraged their Indian allies in inhuman warfare. But there is indubitable proof that they did incite the red men to put to death with fearful barbarity all Americans that fell in their way, not only during the Revolution and the War of 1812, but before the beginning of this century in a time of peace. When York was taken by our forces, among other things found was a scalp suspended over the Speaker's chair in the Parliament House, as a trophy of Indian prowess in some recent raid upon the territory of the Union. This was sent to General Armstrong, Secretary of War of the U. S., but he refused to receive it or allow it to have a place in his cabinet of curiosities. At the close of the Revolution in 1783 a computation was made of the Indian warriors, who had been employed by the British against the revolted col-

onies. There were twenty-seven different tribes, or sub-tribes, represented, including 12,690 fighting men. Hon. Charles J. Ingersoll says: "In both the first and later wars with England, that power had a greater number of Indians under arms than Europeans employed against the Americans;" and we may add, that they were used not in civilized conflict alone, but in murdering, scalping and burning at the stake the inhabitants of our Northwestern borders.

In 1782, Captain Gerrish, of the New England militia, in an expedition against the British and Indians, captured some bundles of dried skins, which he brought home, and concerning which he writes to a superior officer as follows:

"ALBANY, March 7th.

"The peltry taken in the expedition will, you see, amount to a good deal of money. The possession of this booty at first gave us pleasure, but we were struck with horror to find among the packages, eight large ones containing scalps of our unfortunate country folks, taken in the last three wars by the Seneca Indians from the inhabitants of the frontiers of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Virginia, and sent by them as a present to Col. Haldimand, Governor of Canada, in order to be by him transmitted to England; and they were accompanied by a curious letter to that gentleman."

In this letter, that went with the scalps, is a list and minute description of all the eight bundles, and their contents. The whole number was 951, of which 190 were of boys of various ages; 211 were of girls, big and little; 43 were of Congress soldiers killed in different skirmishes; 88 were of women, with long hair; and the remainder were of farmers; and all were marked with Indian signs and devices, by which the savages indicated to what class each belonged, how they were slain, by muskets, tomahawk, knife or club, and in what they were employed at the time of death, whether in the house or the fields, and many other particulars. In this communication, which was signed by James Crawford, an Indian or half-breed, he claims that there were very few gray heads among the scalped, almost all being young or in middle age, which he says makes the service to the English government more essential, and earnestly requests that supplies be sent to his people, of which they were in great need, as "they had not been idle friends."

The savages were wont to inflict inconceivable sufferings upon their prisoners, as Francis Parkman abundantly shows in his interesting volumes. They pulled out the finger nails and toe nails of their hapless victims, burned the bottoms of their feet with red hot irons, thrust hot irons into their bodies, and roasted their flesh at a slow fire to prolong their agonies. The militia under Gen. Brown were well aware what would be their awful fate, if they should be taken alive by the black-haired denizens of the forests, and when they saw them in the ranks of the enemy, it is not surprising that they should recoil from their neighborhood.

In the attack on Sackett's Harbor at first the British gained some advantage, driving the militia within the intrenchments, and an American naval officer, supposing the day was lost, set on fire the stores, that had been taken at York and



brought thither for safe keeping, and which were sacrificed unnecessarily. But Gen. Brown rallied his wavering lines, and cheered them on against the foe, soon compelling them to retreat, leaving many killed and wounded, whom they deserted to be cared for or buried by the Americans, as was their custom throughout the war. Hon. C. J. Ingersoll uses the following language about the General, who was unexpectedly called to direct the operations of the day: "General Brown, no soldier by profession, was one of those natural offsprings of war, who seem born to excel in it, a man stout of person, strong of nerve, bold, brave, sagacious, full of resource, indefatigable, whose exploits were among the most brilliant of that war." I will here introduce a part of a letter which General Brown wrote immediately after the engagement.

"MAY 29th, 1813.

"We were attacked at the dawn of this day by a British regular force of at least 900 men, most probably 1200. They made their landing at Horse Island. We are completely victorious. The enemy lost a considerable number of killed and wounded on the field, among the number several officers of distinction. After having re-embarked, they sent me a flag desiring to have their killed and wounded attended to. I made them satisfied on that subject. Americans will be distinguished for humanity and bravery. Our loss is not numerous but serious from the great worth of those who have fallen. Colonel Mills was shot dead at the commencement of the action, and Colonel Backus, of the first regiment of light dragoons, nobly fell at the head of his regiment as victory was declaring for us. I will not presume to praise this regiment; their gallant conduct on this day merits much more than praise. Sir George Prevost landed and commanded in person. Sir James Yeo commanded the enemy's fleet. In haste, yours, &c,

"JACOB BROWN."

An author of distinction has made the following observation: "General Brown was a Pennsylvania Quaker, a village schoolmaster not far from Philadelphia, and soon rose, like Greene in the War of the Revolution, to military eminence; two men of genius for military affairs, only second, if that, to the first military commanders of this country, *Greene* and *Brown*, of whom it was jocularly said, that both proved true blue."

The ruling authorities of our government were much gratified with the military skill and heroic conduct of General Brown, shown in the defeat of the British at Sackett's Harbor, and soon after promoted him to the rank of Brigadier General in the regular army. In November, 1813, he was at the head of the advance force in the expedition of General Wilkinson down the St. Lawrence. The enemy had been driven from the region of Niagara more than three-fourths the distance to Montreal. Col. Winfield Scott, afterwards Lieutenant General, was serving under General Brown, and was fifteen miles ahead of General Wilkinson. The English, 800 strong, were overtaken after a rapid march by our troops, consisting of about the same number, and were routed at Hoophola Creek, leaving many prisoners in our hands. If the vigorous measure of General Brown had been seconded by Wilkinson, there is little

doubt that Montreal might have been captured. No considerable obstacle was in the way. The only thing necessary was to press on and the coveted prize would have been grasped.

But on the 12th of November, when it was expected that Gen. Hampton would have added his force to that of Wilkinson, and made assurance doubly sure, he sent a message to the latter, positively declining to aid in the onward movement or to proceed further into Canada. This afforded sufficient excuse to Wilkinson to arrest all aggressive operations and retire into winter quarters. General Brown and Col. Scott were recalled, and inaction settled like an incubus upon our army, when these two officers and many others were anxious to push northward into hostile territory.

Soon after this Gen. Brown was appointed Major General in the regular army of the U. S., and assigned to the command of the Niagara frontier. During the Winter of 1813-14 he was engaged in completing the organization of the forces in Western New York, perfecting their discipline, and preparing them for energetic action in the Spring. At the opening of the season arrangements were made for an invasion of Canada. Gen. Brown's headquarters were at Buffalo with his soldiers in two brigades under Generals Winfield Scott and Ripley, numbering 3300. The English were encamped about three miles away near the Chippewa River, a confluent of the Niagara, under General Riall, who had 2500 some cavalry, artillery superior to the American, and a body of Canadians and Indians.

Early in the morning of July 3d, Gen. Brown's troops crossed the Niagara and seized Fort Erie, the garrison of 140 men surrendering without resistance. On the next day they drove in the British outposts and ere long came near the main body, when the General determined to attack them in their present position. That his men might be fresh and vigorous however, he deferred the contest till the following morning, July 5th. The English commander, influenced by similar considerations, adopted the same plan. Both parties then left their camps and deployed into a plain two miles wide. On the American side Gen. Scott's brigade was in front; General Ripley's some distance in the rear. The two armies marched steadily towards each other, with colors flying, the light glancing from their bayonets, as if on parade, till they had approached within eighty yards, when the flash of musketry burst forth on each side all along the line. General Brown, fearful that Ripley's brigade would not arrive in time to lend their help, dashed back to hurry them up. While he was gone, General Scott, seeing some confusion among the Canadians, occasioned by the blowing up of an ammunition wagon, shouted to McNeil's battalion, "The enemy say we're better at long shot than steel. Eleventh! give the lie to the slander—charge! charge the rascals!". This was done obliquely in gallant style and another battalion raking them on the opposite flank, they broke and left the field to the Americans. This was all accomplished in a short time, and when General Brown returned the English were in full retreat, which they continued across the Chippewa, burning the bridge behind



them. The British had 2,100 engaged in the battle; the Americans 1,900. The former lost in killed and wounded 503; the latter 333. With nearly equal numbers on each side and a fair field, victory rested with General Brown's army on account of the superior discipline, to which it had been subjected during several months, the skillful disposition of the different regiments, and the promptness of the commanding officers to seize the favorable opportunity for charging the enemy.

Two days after the conflict at Chippewa, another sanguinary engagement took place with the English in the same vicinity, at Lundy's Lane, sometimes called the battle of Bridgewater, or Niagara, in which General Brown again saw triumph salute the flag of his country. He was at the head of about 3,000 soldiers. The Canadians had 4,000, with a heavy battery of cannon, and were posted on high ground in a most desirable location. Want of time will prevent my giving a description of this fearful struggle, which occurred late in the afternoon and evening of July 25, 1814. Major General Brown and Brigadier General Scott were both severely wounded. An elegant writer says about that memorable contest: "At length the enemy broken and foiled at all points retired for the third time, and a profound silence ensued, interrupted only by the groans of the wounded and dying, and the monotonous roar of the great waterfall, moaning as it were over this fatal scene of patricidal strife and military glory." And he calls it the "most hotly contested battle perhaps that had at that time ever been fought upon the American continent."

For his bravery, ability and success in the several campaigns of the war General Brown received the thanks of Congress and a gold medal, which, the resolution declared was designed to be "emblematical of his triumphs." The Winter of 1814-15 he spent in Washington, recovering from his wounds, preparing for another campaign, as he supposed, in defence of his native land, and enjoying the respect and homage of every patriot. By the Treaty of Ghent in 1815 peace was restored between Great Britain and the United States, and General Brown remained in the regular army as Major General until 1821, when he succeeded to the supreme command under the President. In that year he was stricken with paralysis, but lived in an enfeebled condition seven years, departing this life at Washington February 24, 1828, in the 53d year of his age.

His remains were deposited in the Congressional Burying Ground at Washington, and the following inscription appears upon the monument at his grave: "Sacred to the memory of General Jacob Brown. He was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, on the 9th of May, 1775, and died at the City of Washington, Commanding General of the Army, on the 24th of February, 1828.

"Let him, who e'er in after days  
Shall view this monument of praise,  
For honor leave the patriot sigh  
And for his country learn to die."

## THE WILKINSONS.

### Sketch of One of the Oldest Families in the County.

#### EMINENT ROYALISTS IN BRITAIN.

Brief Outline of the Family's History from the Time of the Arrival of Lawrence Wilkinson, about 1645, to the Present, Prepared for the "Democrat" by Ogden D. Wilkinson, of Philadelphia.

John and Josias, brothers of Samuel, were also in the Indian Wars. Rev. Israel Wilkinson, in his "Memoirs of the Wilkinson Families," in speaking of Samuel and his brothers during these troubles, says "they fought valiantly."

Samuel and Plain had six children—Samuel, John, William, Joseph, Ruth and Susanna.

Ruth married William Hopkins and was the mother of Stephen Hopkins, for many years Governor of Rhode Island, and a signer of the Declaration of Independence; also of Essex Hopkins, the first Commodore of an American fleet, 1776.

Another prominent personage among the early descendants of Lawrence Wilkinson was Jemima Wilkenson, the prophetess. She was the daughter of Jeremiah [son of John, son of Samuel] and Eliz. Amy Whipple, and was born November 29, 1752; died July 1, 1819. She never married.

During her girlhood it is said she was very fond of dress and society, and attended nearly all the social parties in the neighborhood. At about eighteen years of age a religious excitement prevailed in Providence, caused by the preaching of the distinguished George Whitfield, which made a serious impression upon the mind of Jemima, if we may judge from the change produced in her outward conduct. She was taken ill with a malignant fever, and after a long siege arose from her bed, suddenly recovered, declaring she had a mission to perform, and she at once commenced preaching, and continued doing so for forty years.

Rev. Israel Wilkinson states in his "Memoirs" that upon visiting Yates county, New York, the place where Jemima established quite a community, he was pleased to hear prominent people speak highly of her benevolence and moral worth, which was no doubt quite a satisfaction to him, as David Hudson, in his life of Jemima, had placed her among religious impostors.

John, the second son of Samuel and Plain, was born at his father's homestead in Loquissett, in Providence, January 25, 1677-8. He left Providence when quite a young man, and from an old record of the Chapman family, now in the possession of Isaac W. Jeans, of Philadelphia, located first in Hunterdon county, New Jersey, where he married Mary.

We find him in Wrightstown, Bucks



county, in 1713, this being the date of the first deed, which was for 307 acres, May 27, 1713. This tract was on the Neshaminy and in Warwick, Wrightstown and Buckingham townships, near where Rushland Station is now located, and is still known as the old Wilkinson tract. Mr. Warner owns the portion on which the first house was built. This house, or rather a portion of it, is left, but I am sorry to say not in its original form, for Mr. Warner has turned it into two tenant houses. It is located opposite the house Mr. Warner now occupies.

Several of the old stone stables are still standing. They were one story and hay mow. Dates are to be found on several of them. When I visited there, I either neglected to make a note of the dates or lost my memorandum.

John Wilkinson returned to Providence to settle his father's estate July 3, 1728. He signed a power of attorney, with William Hopkins, James Angell, Josiah Wilkinson and David Wilkinson, to Joseph Wilkinson, to dispose of the lands and other property of Samuel, who had recently died. A few days later a deed was signed, which gives the description of the homestead of Samuel, and was the means by which the whereabouts of the Pennsylvania branch of the family was located. I give an abstract of this deed, which so fully establishes the parentage of John Wilkinson, of Wrightstown:

"To all People Before whom this Deed of Sale shall come; Josiah Wilkinson, of Providence, in the colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, in New England, husbandman, and John Wilkinson, of Wrights Town, in the county of Bucks, in the Province of Pennsylvania; and William Hopkins and Ruth, his wife; James Angel and Susannah, his wife, David Wilkinson, Samuel Wilkinson, and Huldah Wilkinson, Jun., and Ichabod Comstock and his wife, Zabliah; Joseph Arnold, Jr., and his wife, Patience, all of said Providence and colony of Rhode Island, above s'd sends greeting: Know ye that we the said (as above) for and in consideration of the sum of seaventy hundred and seaventy pounds current money of New England by us in hand already received, and well and truly paid by Joseph Wilkinson, of Providence, in the county of Rhode Island aforesaid, yeoman the receipt, &c., &c., have given, granted bargained and sold, &c., &c., in and to all the lands, meadows, common rights of lands, with all the housing, buildings, fencelng, orchards and real estate that our Hon'd father and grandfather, Capt. Samuel Wilkinson, of Providence, above said, deceased, &c., &c., &c., as namely his Homestead farme where on he dwelt att or neare the place called Loecquissett, being in estimation one hundred and 20 acres, bounded, &c."

The deed, of which the above is an abstract, was signed July 6, 1728, and is recorded in book 8, p. 424-5 and 6, at Providence.

Joseph paid John, as part of the estate £71, and the following receipt was given: "Received then of my brother, Joseph Wilkinson, administrator of his father Samuel Wilkinson's estate, the sum of seventy-one pounds, in part of a legacy which was due to me out of my father's estate. I say received by me, £71."

"JOHN WILKINSON."

John, or, as was he known, Judge Wilkinson, was a Justice of the Peace for

many years, and as such was Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. He was a large holder of real estate and gave each of his sons fine farms. He was active and a good business man, was a member of the Friends' Meeting at Wrightstown, and is buried there. A few weeks before he died he wrote his will, which is dated February, 1751, proved April 23, 1751, and recorded in book 2, p. 225.

Captain Samuel Wilkinson died August 27, 1727, intestate. The appraisement of his personal property is on record in Providence. Joseph was appointed Administrator. Joseph was at this time the only son left in the Colony, Samuel, Jr., having died January 18, 1726-7, John living in Bucks county, and William had gone to England. His estate was appraised at £1,403, 14s., 10d.

John and Mary had seven and possibly eight children. Mary, born July 17, 1708, married August, 1730, Joseph Chapman; Klesiah, who married Thomas Ross. Klesiah was the mother of Judge Ross, one of Pennsylvania's most celebrated Judges, and the ancestor of many prominent men in the legal profession.

Plain married Peter Ball, and probably Susanna, who married Andrew Daws.

Ruth married Joseph Chapman 12th-mo., 10th, 1739.

John married Mary Lacey, daughter of John Lacey, and sister of General Lacey, May 27, 1740, and secondly Hannah Hughes, February, 1770, daughter of Matthew Hughes.

Josiah moved to Chester county about 1761.

Joseph married Barbary Lacey October 13, 1748, moved to Chester county 1762, and settled in Springfield township, now Delaware; returned to Bucks county and settled in Solebury; married Sarah Paxson, daughter of Henry Paxson, 11th-mo., 18th, 1778.

John (4), son of John (3), Samuel (2), Lawrence (1), was born in Wrightstown, 1711. He married first Mary Lacey, daughter of John Lacey, who mentions his daughter, Mary Wilkinson, in his will, and leaves his son, John, and son-in-law, John Wilkinson, executors. For a second wife John Wilkinson married Hannah Hughes, daughter of Matthew Hughes and granddaughter of Matthew Hughes, Sr., who represented Bucks in the Assembly 1725 to 1732 and 1735-1738 and 1737, being a member from Bucks for twelve years. He was Justice of the Peace and Judge of Court of Common Pleas for many years. Matthew Hughes, Sr., was a resident and land owner in Bucks county in 1711.

John Wilkinson became a very prominent and influential man in Bucks county. I find his name more frequently than any other on the records as executor, guardian, surety, administrator, &c. He was a member of the Provincial Assembly, or House of Representatives, for 1761 and 1762, and member of the Convention of the above Assembly; Magistrate on Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, 1764, 1770, 1773, 1774; member Provincial Conference July 15, 1774. He was appointed at a meeting held at Newtown, July 9, 1774, one of a committee to meet at Philadelphia, July 15, 1774.

He was appointed a Lieutenant-Colonel of the Third Bucks County Associators August 10, 1775. He was a member of



Conference, which was held in Philadelphia, June 18, 1776, of all the County Committees. Thomas McKean was President. The object was to prescribe a mode of electing delegates to a great provincial convention for forming a new constitution, and the qualifications of electors who might vote for delegates, etc. He was a member of Assembly from Bucks county, 1776, 1781 and 1782, and appointed one of a committee to hear the prisoners in several goals and discharge same.

He was appointed a Justice of the Peace and Judge of Court of Common Pleas for Bucks county September 3, 1776; appointed on a committee in reference to Indian lands; appointed by Assembly one of a committee "to consider, draft and report to the House what laws it will be most immediately necessary should be passed at this season."—*Journals of Assembly, Vol. I, p. 133.*

He was appointed by the Assembly one of a committee to consider "an Act for emitting the sum of two hundred thousand pounds in bills of credit for the defence of this State and providing a fund for sinking the same by a tax on all estates, real and personal, and on all taxables within the same."—*May 24, 1777, Journals of Assembly, Vol. I, p. 134.*

He was a member of the Committee of Safety for Bucks county and Committee of Correspondence of same; member of first Constitutional Convention July 15, 1776.

The Declaration of Independence had been reported to Congress and passed by every vote of the Colonies on July 4, 1776. The above convention was held in Philadelphia on the fifteenth. Benjamin Franklin was elected President. The members from Bucks were John Wilkinson, Samuel Smith, (who afterwards married Ann Lacey, daughter of John Wilkinson), John Keller, William VanHorn, John Frier, Abraham VanMiddlewarte and Joseph Kirkbride. The Constitution was completed on September 28 and soon after went in force.

In Vol. 4, *Pennsylvania Magazine*, Dr. Gle gives a sketch of Colonel John Wilkinson, in his biographical sketches of the members of the Constitutional Convention of 1776, and states that Edward H. Lagill, late President of Swathmore College, is a great-great-grandson on the maternal side.

Colonel John Wilkinson was one of the committee on Observation of Bucks county, December 15, 1774; was also one of a committee of Correspondence of the Bucks county Committee of Safety. Although Colonel John Wilkinson was much engaged in public affairs, he must have given considerable attention to his private business, as he left a very large estate. He had given his son John a farm of 150 acres, adding his own, and had made other gifts to his children. He left over 300 acres of land in Bucks and 900 acres in the Forks of the Susquehanna to his surviving children, and £779, 13s., 11d., and a remainder out of a personal estate. His will, dated February 11, 1782, proved June 10, 1782 is recorded in Book 4, page 206, at Doylestown.

The *Pennsylvania Gazette*, of June 19, 1822, has the following obituary article:

"On Friday, the 31st ult., departed this life at Wrightstown, in the county of Bucks, John Wilkinson, Esq., in the 71st year of his age, after a long and painful illness, and on the Sunday following his

remains were interred in the Friends' burying ground, the funeral being attended by a very large concourse of people of all denominations. Mr. Wilkinson was a man of very reputable abilities, and of a sound judgment, scrupulously just in all of his transactions, free from bigotry to religion or to party, and a friend to merit whenever it was found. As a companion, a friend, a neighbor, a master, an husband, a father, a guardian to the orphan and the widow, his life was amiable and exemplary. He served the people in several important offices with fidelity and applause, under the old constitution as well as new. His conduct in present Revolution was such as entitled him to the peculiar esteem of all the friends of this country, but it drew on him the rage of enthusiastic bigots.

"He was born and educated among the people called Quakers, and was a member in full standing in the Wrights Town Meeting. His life was an ornament to the Society.

"He mingled not in idle strife and furious debates, but lived as became a Christian, studying peace with all men.

"His principles led him to believe that defensive war was lawful. He was strongly attracted to a republican form of government and the liberties of the people, and when Great Britain, by her folly and wickedness, made it necessary to oppose her measures, from judgment and principle he espoused the cause of his country. He was unanimously chosen a member of our convention, and afterwards served in the Assembly with zeal and integrity, becoming a freeman and a Christian.

"This unhappily roused the resentment of the Society with which he was connected, so that one committee after another were dealing with him and persecuting him to give a testimonial renunciation of what they were pleased to consider as the errors of his political life, though there was no rule or order of the meeting which made his conduct a crime.

"This demand he rejected altogether as tending to belie his own conscience but at length, worried with their importunities, weakened by the growing infirmities of age, and fondly hoping that his country might dispense with his services, he consented to promise that he would hold no other appointments under the constitution.

"This seemed to be satisfactory for a time, but when Sir William Howe began his victorious march through Pennsylvania, a more pressing sense of duty urged his brethren to renew their visit, while his dear son lay dying in his house, and to demand an immediate and peremptory renunciation of his past conduct.

"Provoked by this indecent and unfeeling application he gave them a decisive answer, and preferred the honest dictates of his conscience to his membership in the meeting and was, for his patriotism alone, formally expelled as unworthy of Christian fellowship.

"The testimony of the meeting against him on this occasion was heretofore published in this paper. We trust he is now in those mansions where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest."

I have been unable to find a copy of the *Gazette* which published the testimony referred to above. The British having possession of Philadelphia in 1778, the files are incomplete.



Col. John Wilkinson and Mary Lacey had five children:

I. Mary, born 1741; died April 10, 1802, married Stephen Twining, 4th-mo., 18th, 1765, and had eight children.

II. John, married Jane Chapman, April 26, 1769, and had four children.

III. Stephen, died unmarried.

IV. James, died unmarried.

V. Rachel, died unmarried.

By his second wife, Hannah Hughes:

VI. Martha, married a Bennett.

VII. Ann Lacey, married Captain Samuel Smith, of Pineville, Bucks county, and had eight children.

VIII. Hannah, married Abner Reeder and moved to Trenton.

IX. Elisha, married first, Anna Dungan; secondly, Maria Whiteman.

I have a portrait of Colonel John Wilkinson in uniform, and one of his wife Hannah Hughes. Josiah Wilkinson, son of John and Mary (Walker?), lived for a time in Warwick township, and afterwards moved to Chester county. Mr. Charles Benjamin Wilkinson, of Philadelphia, is a descendent of Josiah, and has spent considerable time in genealogical research. He visited Bishop Wilkinson, of Durham county, England, and has photographs of the old house at Lanchester; also considerable data in reference to our English ancestors, gathered in Durham county, and from old manuscripts, at the British Museum in London.

Joseph, another brother of Colonel John Wilkinson, lived for a time in Bucks county, and moved to Chester county.

Taking up the children of Colonel John Wilkinson and Mary Lacey—

I. Mary married Stephen Twining and had eight children. Mary Ann, granddaughter of Mary and Stephen Twining, married Eleazer Wilkinson, who was a grandson of John, brother of Mary. They were therefore cousins.

II. John married Jane Chapman April 26, 1769; had four children—John, died in infancy; Abraham, Elias and Amos. Abraham married Mary Twining, of Warwick, and had Jane, John, Abraham, Samuel T. and Eleazer.

III. Stephen did not marry; died March, 1785; will proved April 11, 1786; left his estate to his step-mother, brothers and sisters.

IV. Tamer did not marry.

V. Rachel.

By the second wife, John Wilkinson and Hannah Hughes, there were four children:

VI. Martha, who married a Bennett.

VII. Ann Lacey, who married Captain Samuel Smith, and lived at Pineville. Samuel Smith was a Captain during the Revolution and Brigadier General of the Second Division of the first brigade of militia during the war of 1812-14. They had eight children:

I. George W., married Isabel Reynolds, of Kittanning, Pa.

II. Abner Reeder, died aged 28.

III. Elisha Wilkinson, born March 26, 1800, died October, 1863.

IV. Samuel Anderson, married Mary Nunn, of New York.

V. Thomas Ross, died at New Orleans, of yellow fever, 1829.

VI. Margery Ann, married Isaac Van-Horn and died 1839.

VII. Andrew Jackson, born 1815; edu-

cated at West Point, and was a Major in the regular army. He was promoted during the war to Brevet Major General. He married Ann Simpson, of St. Louis, and is now living there.

VIII. Phineas Jenks, born October 24, 1818, married Rebecca Smith; is living at the Colonnade Hotel, Philadelphia. Mr. Smith has in his possession his father's original certificate of membership in the Society of the Cincinnati.

VIII. Hannah, married May 22, 1796, Abner Reeder, and moved to Trenton, N. J.

IX. Elisha Wilkinson, John (4), John (3), Samuel (2), Lawrence (1), married first Anna Dungan, (April 11, 1792), daughter of Elias Dungan, of Northampton, Bucks county, and Diana (Ogden?), and had four children.

John, a lawyer of Doylestown. John married a Hemphill; died December 9, 1830.

Ogden Dungan was interested in the construction of the Delaware and Raritan Canal, and moved to Trenton, 1832, and married March 6, 1834, Sarah Snowhill, daughter of George Dill, of that city. They had three children, twins died in infancy, and Frederick Redinger Wilkinson, who graduated at Princeton, class of '57, married Harriet Folwell; had three children; two living, Ogden D. Wilkinson, in Philadelphia, and Elizabeth D., married Louis Gompertz de Voy, and lives in Paris, France.

Hannah married Chrispin Blackfan. She was his second wife, he having married her sister, Elnor or Eleanor, for his first wife. The family of Ogden Wilkinson Blackfan, deceased, are now living in Trenton, N. J.

Elisha Wilkinson married for his second wife Maria Whiteman and had six children. Sarah Ann died in Trenton, N. J., 1880, unmarried. Ross was educated at West Point, was a major during the late war, and was for a time on General A. J. Smith's staff. He married Hannah Ann Folwell and had two children. After the war Ross purchased a large plantation in Louisiana, and was United States Marshall of the district at the time of his death, 1880.

His son, Henry Clay, was educated at West Point, was Adjutant in Col. E. Woodman's Regiment, 44 P. V. M., during the late war.

Samuel Smith left Bucks county when quite young. He was in the navy, helped to fire salute at Galveston when Texas was annexed to the United States, and served during the Mexican War. He died in Dallas, Texas, February 28, 1879, unmarried. Edward Blackfan was a dentist, went to Huntsville, Ala., and died during a visit abroad in Paris of cholera June 20, 1854, aged 25; buried at Mount Parmasse Paris; was unmarried. Elisha died in infancy.

Algernon Logan, born October 22, 1821, moved to Huntsville, Ala., in 1844, married Laura Erskine. He was a physician, had three children. Dr. Wilkinson is now living in Richmond, Va.

The first wife of Colonel Elisha Wilkinson was of one of the oldest families in Pennsylvania. Her father, Elias Dungan, was a soldier during the Revolution, was a prominent member of the Southampton Baptist Church, and was deacon for many years. He was the son of Clement Dungan and Eleanor John, daughter of Samuel John, grandson of Jeremiah Dungan and Mary Drake, all of Northampton town.



ship, and great grandson of Rev. Thomas Dungan and Elizabeth Weaver, daughter of Clement Weaver and Mary Freeborn.

Rev. Thomas Dungan's son William came to Bucks county in 1693, and Thomas in 1684, and settled at Cold Spring, near Bristol, where he received a grant of 200 acres from William Penn. He was the son of William Dungan, of St. Martin's in the Fields, Middlesex, England, and Francis Latham, daughter of Lewis Latham, falconer to King Charles I. Francis, at the time William Dungan married her, was the widow of Lord Weston.

William and Francis had four children—Barbara, born 1628, married James Barker; William; Francis, born 1690, died 1697, married Randall Holden; Thomas, born in England, married Elizabeth Weaver. William Dungan died 1636. His will, proved October 5, 1636, wife Francis, executrix, mentions the above children. After William Dungan died Francis married Jeremiah Clark and came to America. They located in Providence, R. I. Jeremiah Clark was one of the first proprietors of Providence, and when Roger Williams returned from England, September, 1644, with his new charter, John Coggeshall was the first President, 1646, and Jeremiah Clark the second president of the colony of Rhode Island, 1647.

Thomas Dungan was likely in Providence by 1640. After the death of Jeremiah Clark, Francis his widow married for a fourth husband, Rev. William Vaughan.

phia Yearly Meeting on April 20th, 1692, which was probably adopted by the Monthly Meeting of Philadelphia a few days afterwards. This testimony was presented to Bucks Quarterly Meeting on June 17th, 1692, and also approved by that meeting.

#### THE KEITHIAN DISSENSION.

Being by this action disowned by the Friends, Keith and his adherents, who rapidly increased in numbers, set up meetings at Philadelphia, Neshaminy, Burlington, and several other places, in which they assumed the names of "Christian Quakers and Friends," and in turn proceeded to disown their opponents by issuing a counter testimony signed by twenty-eight members, thereby causing much bitterness of feeling amongst Friends and others in Philadelphia and the surrounding country. In recording the stirring events of those times, Janney, the Quaker historian, says: "Keith's papers were drawn up with much adroitness and had a considerable influence upon many Friends, and a widespread schism ensued. 'Father and son, husband and wife, friends and relations, that had usually worshipped together, though still professors of the same faith in the main, were now seen going to different places of worship.'"

During this period of dissension, now only an interesting historical reminiscence, and which was prolific in religious controversies, a number of virulent polemical pamphlets, emanating largely from England, burdened with malice and too often with scurrility, made their appearance in this country, some of the originals, rudely printed by one "Charles Brome, at the Gun," in London, being now in possession of the Philadelphia Library Company. Their contents can be understood from their titles, one of which was "The Snake in the Grass," and the reply to it was "An Antidote for the Venom of the Snake." These publications were continued in England for some time after Keith went back to London, in 1694, but were not attributed to him. In 1700 Keith was ordained a priest in the Anglican Church and came to America again, when he founded St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Burlington, New Jersey. He died in 1714, and thus ended one of the notable religious controversies of colonial days. Before his death, however, the Keithian Meetings, fifteen in number, were about broken up. A part of his adherents followed him into the Episcopal Church, some returned in reconciliation to the Society of Friends, while others became Presbyterians and Baptists, and it is to the latter that the Southampton Church directly owes its origin.

The Keithian Baptists of Southampton commenced their worship in the house of John Swift, about 1691, and upon his removal to Philadelphia continued to hold services in the house of Peter Chamberlain. In 1732 a lot of ground upon which to build a church, and a glebe of 112 acres to support it, were given by John Morris. The church retained connection with the Penneck Church until 1745, when it became a

From, *Enterprise*

*Newtown*

*P<sup>c</sup>*

Date *June 12. 1897*

#### THE OLD SCHOOL BAPTISTS.

BRIEF HISTORY OF SOUTHAMPTON CHURCH—  
THE DELAWARE RIVER ASSOCIATION.

The history of the old Southampton Baptist Church, now one of the constituting churches of the Delaware River Association of "Particular" or "Primitive" Baptists, forms an interesting chapter of the religious history of early Pennsylvania. George Keith, an educated Scotsman, and for years an esteemed minister and controversial writer of the Friends, left England for America in 1684, after five months' imprisonment in Newgate for teaching school without a license. He appeared within the walls of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting in 1689, and after returning from a trip to New England began his troublesome dissensions in the Society of Friends, introducing new doctrines, which caused widespread dissatisfaction among them from Maryland to Rhode Island. His attitude becoming more intolerant from day to day, testimony was finally signed against him by twenty-eight ministers of the Philadel-



separate congregation, with Joseph Potts as the pastor. In the rear of the church, along with several generations of the people of Southampton, is the grave of John Watt, one of the earliest Keithian preachers, who died in 1702, and also the grave of Joseph Potts, who died in 1761. During the next forty years there were several pastors, amongst them being William Vanhorne, who was chosen in 1772. He continued to preach to the people until January 1st, 1778, when he resigned to join Washington's army at Valley Forge, serving as brigade chaplain until 1780. In that year he resumed charge of the Southampton Church, resigned again, afterwards was a member of the convention which framed the first State Constitution of Pennsylvania, and died in the western part of the State in 1807.

#### LATER HISTORY.

In the year 1801 Thomas B. Montanye, of Warwick, New York, was called, and had the care of the church until his death, in 1829. He is said to have been a man of superior ability, and loved and honored by all the community. His wife survived him for thirty-two years. They had eleven children, and at the time of her death, in 1861, she was survived by 65 grandchildren, 213 great-grandchildren, and a number of great-great-grandchildren. Among Montanye's descendants is the Hon. Harman Yerkes, Judge of the Bucks County Courts. From 1829 the pastors have been James B. Bowen, Alfred Earle, William Sharp, Daniel L. Harding, William J. Purrington and Silas H. Durand, the present pastor, formerly of Herrick, Bradford county, who has been pastor since April 12th, 1884. Though in charge of no other church, Elder Durand preaches at Salisbury, Maryland, every fifth Sunday, visits and preaches in Canada three times a year, and also includes in his circuit remote preaching places in Kentucky.

In 1849 thirty-three members, together with their pastor, Alfred Earle, seceded from the Southampton Church on account of differences of opinion regarding various matters of church polity, and organized the Davisville Baptist Church at the house of Jesse L. Booz, in that village. This church is perhaps stronger numerically today than is the parent body. The Southampton Church was connected with the Philadelphia Baptist Association until the formation of the Delaware River Association, in October, 1835, when it became one of the constituent churches of that body.

One of the first Sunday schools in the county was organized here in 1814 or 1815. Among its superintendents were William Purdy, Jacob Wright, Christopher Search and John Davis. It was a pioneer school. For years no other Sunday school was held in all this section of country, and people came for miles to see how it was conducted. It was discontinued many years ago, and Sunday schools are not now encouraged by this branch of the Baptists. For many years a classical school was kept in an old stone school house near the church, which at one time was taught by Rev. Isaac Eaton.

#### THE DELAWARE RIVER ASSOCIATION

As stated before, an important event in the history of the old Southampton Church took place in 1835. That year the congregation separated from the Philadelphia Baptist Association, and the Delaware River Association was constituted by messengers from this church and from several churches in New Jersey, who met at Kingwood, New Jersey, in October, and Southampton congregation became a body of Old School Baptists.

The distinctive title is given to this order of Baptists because they hold the doctrine and order expressed in the "London Confession of Faith," adopted in England in 1689, especially with regard to the subjects of predestination and election, and do not unite with or favor any religious societies or organizations but the church, nor engage in any form of service for which they do not find, as they think, a literal command and example in the New Testament. The separation between them and the far larger number of Baptists, with whom they differ on these points, took place in this country and in England about 1830. Another point of difference is that the primitive or Old School Baptists do not give to their ministers any other title than that of "Mr." or "Elder." The reason they assign for not using "Reverend" is that in the only place in the Scriptures where it is used, Psalms 8: 9, it is applied to the name of the Lord. The denomination has no organized missionary societies, nor any traveling evangelists.

The denomination is very numerous in Georgia and other parts of the South, but few in numbers and almost unknown in Pennsylvania. In Georgia there are forty associations, many of them having forty churches in each, while the Delaware River Association, which embraces a large part of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, includes but six churches.

The sessions of the Association are appointed to be held at Southampton once every three years, "commencing on Wednesday before the first Sunday in June at 10 A. M." The 63d annual assembling took place at Southampton Church on June 2d, 3d and 4th. The business proceedings occupied but a very few hours each day, and the balance of the time was devoted to preaching. Elder Silas H. Durand, pastor of the Southampton Church, and Moderator of the Association, is authority for the statement that it is largely the custom in the South when such meetings are held to "preach" a number of men, and it is frequently a subject of conversation about how many had been "preached," as they term it, at this or that Association. There was no lack of preaching at the Delaware River Association, as several leading members were present as fraternal messengers from Associations in other States. The preachers on Wednesday were Elders W. J. Carnell, of Tennessee; Charles Bogardon, of New York, and D. M. Vale, of Pennsylvania; on Thursday, Elders William Grafton, of Maryland; J. M. Dadgor, of Virginia; L. H. Hardy, of North Carolina, and H. M. Curry, of Cincinnati, Ohio; Elders Ahimaz Mellott, of New York, and A. B. Francis.

Next year the Association will meet at Hopewell, N. J.



From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylesboro Pa*  
 Date, *June 21. 1897*

## BUCKWAMPUN.

### Tenth Annual Meeting Held at Riegelsville.

Valuable Historical Papers Read at the  
 Assembling of the Historical and Literary Association of Upper Bucks County  
 —A Large Crowd in Attendance.

The tenth annual meeting of the Buckwampun Historical and Literary Association was held Saturday afternoon in the grove on the grounds of the school house on the hill above the pretty village of Riegelsville. Within sight and less than a mile distant is the northern boundary line of Bucks county at the foot of a range of hills that separate Northampton from its parent, one of the original trio, and upon every side were beautiful landscape prospects, whether it lay in our own county or across the historic and placid Delaware in New Jersey.

The meeting place was admirably adapted to the purposes of the gathering and was unusually well attended by an intelligent and representative audience of the community, notwithstanding the busy season of the farmer who desired to take advantage of the one pleasant day to diligently prosecute their hay making, and upon almost every farm could be heard the hum of the mower or busy farm hands were seen turning or raking hay, while others were engaged housing the crop.

The speakers' stand was decorated with the national colors and designs made of field daisies, and from it were read some of the most interesting papers read before the association. The exercises, which continued from half-past one to nearly five o'clock, were interspersed with vocal music by Riegelsville talent. An enjoyable feature was the singing of three little girls with autoharp accompaniment at the beginning and close of the exercises. The girls were Florence Bean, with autoharp, Katie Stover and Leona Wirth. A sextette of young ladies, Misses Lillian M. Bean, Laura Hoffman, Lizzie Hoffman, Bertha Wardell, Anna Wirth and Mary Poore, sang "Queen of the Night;" Misses Laura Hoffman and Hattie Stout sang a duet, "I Would that My Love," and Clarence N. Bean a bass solo, "The

Hum of the Bee." During the exercises a photograph of the assemblage was taken by William L. Rapp, of Riegelsville.

Hon. C. E. Hindenach, of Durham, President of the association since its organization, made an excellent address in opening the exercises, in which he said:

"Standing as we do to-day many centuries beyond the period of time when the early settlers of this immediate community, battling against the storm waves of adversity that presented themselves like unsurmountable barriers to progress and advancement, yet leaving their unmistakable foot-prints on the sands of time, there occurs to my mind at this time one of the most unique, instructive and fitting passages in the entire realm of literature, namely: 'These are the researches of Heroditus, which he published in the hope of thereby preserving from decay the remembrance of what men have done.'

"Our purpose, as an association, as I understand it, is to follow the example of our great leader Heroditus in the hope of thereby preserving from decay the remembrance of what men and women have done and are now doing in Northern Bucks and adjacent counties.

"The Buckwampun Historical and Literary Association, through the persistent efforts of its members, has already produced much invaluable material to the local historian and the work is only begun.

"Friends, it affords me an unusual degree of pleasure to state that to-day we are standing on historic soil. Durham and the beautiful Durham Valley, presenting an everchanging panorama to the eye of the enthusiastic admirer of nature, were trodden by primitive man ages upon ages before the European ever dreamed of a land beyond the sea. Generation after generation of pre-historic peoples lived and passed away, leaving only mementos carved on stone to tell the story of their having occupied the soil, their customs, their mode of living and their effectual attempts in the advancement to a higher standard, their arts and customs.

"When the European first cast his eyes upon the blue limpid waters of the picturesque Delaware, wending its course, like a silver ribbon, among the hills and mountains and palisades, he was struck with wonder and admiration. Upon its banks dwelt the remnant of a race of people, noble in physique, brave and fearless in war, truthful in their conversation and dealings with men, and uncontaminated with the familiar vices of the Europeans.

"Attention was directed to Durham as early as 1648. Two centuries and a half have rolled by into the dim past since the white man first trod the hills and valleys of this locality. As early as 1698 Durham was known and valued for its ores of iron and a tribe of Indians was placed along the present iron ore deposits to protect them.

"As I look over Riegelsville, the metropolis of Durham, with its beautiful churches, its progressive schools, its busy factories, its comfortable private residences and its enterprising citizens. My mind, through the law of association wanders back to 1682-1730 when this locality was the site of a Shawnese



Indian village. What a busy scene must have presented itself at that time. Here might have been seen droves of pack horses, loaded with iron from Andover furnace, following the road along the north side of the Musconetcong, passing Bloomburg, Greenwich and Chelsea to the Delaware river landing. Here the manufactured iron was transferred from the backs of horses on board the historic Durham boat and shipped to New Hope, Trenton and Philadelphia.

"The history of the Durham boat, of which the people of this community are justly proud, is most intimately and inseparably linked with that of the Revolutionary struggle.

"When dark clouds of dire foreboding were suspended above the infant republic, when the friends of free government began to doubt the ultimate success of the little patriot band, the heart of him who was first in peace, first in war and first in the hearts of his countrymen, was cheered on receiving consignment after consignment of cannon balls cast at Durham and transported down the Delaware river on Durham boats to the seat of war. Ah, more than that! It was on Durham boats that had been pressed into service that Washington transferred his half-frozen army across the turbulent waters of the Delaware, which resulted in surprising and capturing the dissipated Hessian horde at Trenton and caused the star of hope once more to rest in the drooping hearts of all patriotic Americans.

"Although every spot in the entire surrounding community is historic ground, I am mindful of the fact that there are other localities represented here this afternoon whose record we are anxious hear, which suggests brevity on my part.

"Notwithstanding the fact that the withering hand of financial depression and want is resting heavily on the people of all the sections of our fair land and all the various channels of human industry and activity more or less depressed and paralyzed, still it is gratifying to notice that every earnest effort in the way of scientific investigation and historic research, every effort to develop the human mind and stimulate it to higher and nobler aspirations in life receives a greater degree of support by the people at large than at any time in the past.

"And now, ladies and gentlemen, it becomes my privilege once more on behalf of the citizens of Riegelsville and Durham to extend to you a most cordial welcome to this the tenth annual meeting of our association, cherishing the hope that your brief sojourn among us this afternoon may be as pleasant and profitable as your memory of the past and your most sanguine dreams of the future."

E. M. Hartman, of Applebachsville, read the first paper, which was "A Study of Family Names," being an exposition of names, a subject with which he is thoroughly familiar. As all the papers read at the meeting will be published in full in subsequent issues of the INTELLIGENCER, it is not necessary to give abstracts of them at this time.

Miss Lizzie Yost, of Kintnersville, took up the history of "The Bethlehem Road," which leaves Philadelphia at Chestnut Hill and enters Bucks county

at Line Lexington, passing through Hilltown, Blooming Glen, Hagersville, Applebachsville and Pleasant Valley, and which was opened in 1738.

"Some Olden Time Residents of the Nockamixon Flats," was the subject of the paper presented by Rev. S. S. Diehl, of Kintnersville, and which dealt with the families of Benjamin Williams and John Pursell.

John A. Ruth, of Bethlehem, read an able and exhaustive paper on the subject of "Our German Ancestors."

"The Swamp of Bucks County, Its Character and Its People," was the topic of an excellent paper by A. B. Haring, cashier of the Frenchtown National Bank, and dealt with that portion of the county which covers about 50 square miles in Nockamixon, Bridgeton and Tinicum townships.

Rev. O. H. Melchor, of Springtown, read biographical sketches of "The Pioneer Preachers of Durham," Rev. Henry S. Miller and Rev. C. F. Welden, D. D.

"Isaac and Pontiac Nutimus," Indian chiefs who lived and died in the upper part of Bucks county, were the subjects of a paper by Miss Nora E. Grim, Revere.

Rev. C. B. Weaver, of Ferndale, made a brief address upon "Thoughts of Our Sunday Schools," which he claimed existed before Christ, for the Jewish people gathered together for the study of the Word.

Henry Hinkle, of Riegelsville, read an able paper on "Our Native Birds;" Asa Frankenfield, of Keller's Church, on "Keller's Church," and Miss Clara R. Laubach, of Riegelsville, on the "Durham Cave," a natural curiosity of Bucks county now almost destroyed.

The next meeting of the Buckwampun Historical and Literary Association will be held at the Ringing Rocks of Nockamixon on the Second Saturday of June, 1898. This is a picturesque spot and contains one of the most curious of Nature's works, being one of the two fields of musical rocks in the county, and is the property of A. B. Haring, of Frenchtown, who purchased the ground from the government to save it from ruthless destruction by the rock crusher.

The gentlemen who labored indefatigably and with success in making the meeting of Saturday interesting and instructive were the President and Secretary, C. E. Hindenach, of Riegelsville, and Charles Laubach, of Riegelsville, and the Committee of Arrangements, Lee S. Clymer, John B. Poore, Dr. J. S. Johnson, George W. Bachman, Captain Mathias Lehnert, Jordan F. Stover, Samuel Dilgard, George Probasco and Henry H. Youngken.

From, *Democrat*

*Doplestrom*

Date, *July 8, 1897*



# OLD BETHLEHEM ROAD.

Sketch of the Famous Highway  
Through Bucks.

## A LEGACY OF COLONIAL DAYS.

A Paper Read Before the Buckwampun Historical and Literary Society at Riegelsville, June 19, 1897, by Miss Lizzie Yost, of Kintnersville.

The "Old" Bethlehem road leaves Philadelphia county at Chestnut Hill, and enters Bucks county at Line Lexington, passing through Hilltown, Blooming Glen, Eagersville, Applebachsville, Pleasant Valley, Hellertown, &c. The road was opened in 1738 to Nathan Irish's stone quarries at Iron Hill, east of Bethlehem, and to Bethlehem and Nazareth in 1745.

The "New" Bethlehem road was laid out later on an Indian trail. Beginning at Line Lexington, it passes through Sellersville and Quakertown and at Coopersburg unites with the older routes to Bethlehem.

The old Bethlehem road was an important highway from Philadelphia to Bethlehem, Mauch Chunk, Wilkesbarre, etc. It is said that as many as one hundred heavy teams passed by one point in the road in one day; some of them being from points as far distant as Wilkesbarre.

In early times most of the traffic from Durham and upper Bucks was carried on by means of pack-horses. This was continued as late as 1760. From twenty-five to fifty horses were tied tandem and loaded with produce and started toward their destination along Indian trails, which were at times quite circuitous, as it is well known that Indians followed water courses to easy fording places. When sufficient produce had been collected in a neighborhood to venture a trip to Philadelphia or New York, several guides and a posse of guards well armed were procured and the train of animals being in line, the trip commenced. The way led through an almost untrodden wilderness, full of savages and frontier robbers. The trip from Bethlehem and Easton to Philadelphia required two days in Summer and three or more in Winter and Spring.

Later, farmers along the route of the Bethlehem road drove to the Philadelphia market with wagons loaded with produce. Springfield farmers frequently started Sunday noon and returned Wednesday. Others started Tuesday, and returned Saturday.

Favorite stopping places for farmers going to market were Flourtown, Line Lexington, and Trewig's hotel, about a mile below the latter place.

A great many of the men stopping for the night slept on the floor of the bar-room, on their fised bags. These were laid in rows, and thus the sturdy farmers passed the night. Occasionally when

there were lively bolsterous men sitting there, joking and merry-making was kept up until a late hour. Most of the men took supper at the hotel in the evening, but in the morning they usually took a "bite" from the provision wallet which each carried, and set out about 4 or 5 o'clock. Starting at Flourtown about 4 p. m. they would reach the market about 9.

The Black Horse Hotel, on Second street, was a popular stopping place for Springfield farmers. Another well-known hostelry was the White Horse on Third street. The sales were made in the inn yard. Upon reaching the hotel the horses were ungeared, and the farmer was then ready for his customers. Prices were ascertained by the newcomers from those returning from market, when meeting out of town.

Parties from upper Bucks used to gather a great many shellbarks and chsstnuts, and take them to market. Leaving their wagons standing in the shed over night, they sometimes awoke to find their stock appreciably lessened through sundry leaks which the sacks had sprung during the night.

Teams from points farther north carried partly tanned leather, which was finished in Philadelphia; also raw whiskey, hardware, etc. A considerable portion of the return loads was made up of iron which had been used in building the "arks" in which coal was conveyed from the coal regions to Philadelphia. These boats were loaded with their cargoes and then allowed to float down the river. Upon arriving at their destination they were broken up and the iron hauled back to be used in constructing new boats.

Staging over the old Bethlehem road was begun September 10th, 1763, by George Klein. The route was liberally patronized. The coach left Philadelphia at 4 a. m. for Bethlehem or Allentown, the old and the new road connecting at Line Lexington. The "down" stage left the two points at the northern ends of the line at 7 a. m. About 1848 the stages were run "turn about." The stage from Allentown made a down trip on the new road the day that the stage on the old made a return trip, and vice versa. The passengers and the mail were carried by the same coach. Since the opening of the North Penn. railroad the stage coaches have been done away with and the mail carried with one horse.

Of the old drivers probably the only representative now living is Ephraim Wieder, of Lehnensburg, one of the drivers on the new road. General Paul Applebach was the last proprietor of the stage coach line.

It was over the old Bethlehem road that Lafayette was conveyed to the hospital at Bethlehem after being wounded at Brandywine. He spent two weeks at the hotel at Pleasant Valley, being too ill to continue the journey. It is said that Washington's coach in times long ago also stopped at this place. This hotel, now a private dwelling, and occupied by W. C. Gressman, was built probably between 1763-70, and its massive walls and carved doorways look ready to bid defiance to the ravages of time for some time yet to come.

During the Revolution the hotel passed into the hands of Henry Eckels, said to have been one of the first temperance men of the vicinity. He cut down the signboard and emptied the liquor in the gutter.



Among other things was a quantity of "cherry bounce," for the cneries of which the pigs showed a liking, and in consequence became intoxicated. Mr. Eckels sank a tanyard near the Cook creek at Pleasant Valley, and had a saddler's shop where were made saddles and harness for use in the army during the Revolution.

In 1805-6 an effort was made to incorporate a company for the improvement of the old Bethlehem road through Hiltown, but without success. Not until 1849 was the project again revived, when a distance of 5 1-4 miles between Line Lexington and Mount Pleasant was piked. In 1853 the Hiltown and Sellersville Turnpike Company improved the road between the two towns. In 1861 the Quakertown and Sellersville Company improved the road between these two points.

The old milestones set up more than a hundred years ago are still preserved in some localities.

From, *Intelligence*

*Doplectorm Ph*

Date, *July 29 1897*

## THOMAS JANNEY.

### Provincial Councillor of the Province of Pennsylvania.

A Paper Read Before the Midsummer Meeting of the Bucks County Historical Society at Galloway's Ford, July 20th, 1897, by Oliver Hough.

Thomas Janney was born in Cheshire England, about 1683. Although we have no direct proof, (that is, none known at this time,) it appears almost certain that he was the son of Thomas and Elizabeth Janney, who lived in Pownall Fee township, Wilmslow parish, which was in Macclesfield Hundred, Cheshire.

Thomas Janney, Sr., (whom we suppose, as above, to be the father of the subject of our sketch,) joined the Society of Friends a short time after that body came into existence, and he is mentioned several times in their early annals. In Besse's "Sufferings of Friends" several instances of his being persecuted for his faith are reported; in 1653 he suffered distress of goods for going to meeting; in 1664 he was imprisoned for refusing to pay tithes; in 1666 a number of persons (among them his son, William Janney, and James Harrison,

who afterwards came to Pennsylvania,) were sent to gaol in Chester for being at a meeting at the house of Thomas Janney, in Pownall Fee.

We know little further of the events in the life of the elder Janney. There was a Thomas Janney who was Mayor of Stockport in 1639; he was probably not the same person as the father of the Councillor, as the latter would most likely have been too young in 1639 to hold such a position; yet it is possible that he might have been the same, and in later life moved to the country. Stockport is one of the principal towns in Cheshire, and is only three or four miles from the border of Pownall Fee township, being like the latter, in the northern part of Macclesfield Hundred.

Thomas Janney, Sr., died 12th-month, 17th, 1677, and his widow, Elizabeth, died 12th-month, 19th, 1681; they were both buried at Mobberly, where most of the family were also buried. Mobberly was a parish of Bucklow Hundred, and its parish church and graveyard were about five miles southwest of that of Wilmslow. Mobberly had probably been the parish of earlier generations of the family.

If our presumption is correct, that Thomas and Elizabeth were the parents of Thomas Janney, the Pennsylvanian, their children were as follows:

(1) Thomas, the subject of this sketch; probably the eldest child.

(2) Mary; she married either John Bancroft, of Etchels, Cheshire, or Robert Piereson, of Pownall Fee; the records of Cheshire Monthly Meeting mention the marriages of two Mary Janneys in 1663, the husbands' names being as above.

(3) William; he married 7th-mo. 30th, 1671, Deborah Webb

(4) Henry; he married 1st-mo. 16th, 1672-3, Barbara Baguley.

(5) Martha; married 12th-mo. 12th, 1672, Hugh Burgess, of Pownall Fee.

(6) Margaret; she died young, 11th-mo. 11th, 1673, and was buried at Mobberly.

(7) Randle; he died young, 3d-mo. 17th, 1674; buried at Mobberly.

It may be of interest to give some particulars of Thomas Janney's two brothers, William and Henry, as some of the children of both emigrated to Pennsylvania.

William Janney removed from his father's house to a place usually called Hanford, more correctly Handforth, in Cheshire parish, also in the Hundred of Macclesfield, before 1671. He belonged to the Society of Friends, and is mentioned in Besse's "Sufferings." He was among those sent to gaol at Chester in 1666, for being at a meeting at his father's house in Pownall Fee; and in 1683 he lost 16 pounds, 5 shillings, by the statute against Popish recusants, which was applied to the Quakers.

William Janney married 7th-month 30th, 1671, at Thomas Taylor's house in Stafford, Deborah Webb, of Inkatreay (in Staffordshire?). They lived all their married life in Hanford, and their children were born there. Deborah died 5th-month 20th, 1701, aged about 54 years. After his wife's death William moved to Morley, a district in Pownall Fee township, where he died on 8th month 4th, 1724, aged about 86 years. They were both buried at Mobberly. Their children were:

(1) Joseph; born 7th-mo. 7th, 1672.

(2) Annie; born 7th-mo. 3d., 1674. Nothing further is known of these two.

(3) Randle; born 2d-mo. 10th, 1677, went



to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and became a wealthy merchant there. He is mentioned in the correspondence between William Penn and James Logan. In his will, made in 1715, he left a bequest to his father, William Janney, of Morley, in Cheshire, and mentions his brother Thomas, who also came to Philadelphia, his cousin Abel Janney, (son of his uncle Thomas) and a number of other relatives and friends. He married 8th-mo. 31, 1701, in Philadelphia, Mtg. Frances Righton.

(4) Thomas; born 3d-mo. 18th., 1679. He preceded his brother Randle to Philadelphia, and afterwards applied, through Randle, for a certificate from the Monthly Meeting held at Morley. There is no record of his ever being married.

(5) Mary; born 6th-mo. 17th, 1681; she married George Pawley; they are mentioned in her brother Randle's will.

(6) William; born 3d-mo. 31st, 1683. Nothing further known.

(7) Elizabeth; born — — — — —, died —mo. 11th, 1701; buried at Mobberly.

Henry Janney, brother of Thomas, the Councillor, married 1st-month 16th, 1672 3, Barbara Bagnely, of Stockport, and they took up their residence in that town, where her family lived. About 1680 they went to Adswood, in Oneadale Parish; this place we have not been able to locate at the present time. About 1685 they moved to Eaton Norris, in Lancashire, where Henry died, 6th-month, 3d, 1690; he was buried at Mobberly. Henry and Barbara Janney had issue:

(1) Elizabeth; born 9th-mo. 7th, 1677, at Stockport. After her parents died she and her sisters Mary and Tabitha went to Philadelphia to be under the care of their relatives there. Elizabeth married in 1710, Pentecost Teague, a member of Common Council, and one of the city's two representatives in the Assembly of Pennsylvania. He was a native of Cornwall, England. They had no children.

(2) Mary; born 11th-mo. 1st, 1680; she came to Philadelphia with her sisters and in 1708 married Joseph Drinker, of the well-known Philadelphia family of that name.

(3) Martha; born 8th-mo. 21st, 1683, died 12th-mo. 11th, 1684; buried at Mobberly.

(4) Thomas; born 1st-mo. 1st, 1686, died 8th-mo. 2d, 1686; buried at Mobberly.

(5) Tabitha; born 7th-mo. 29th, 1687, at Eaton Norris. She came to Philadelphia with her sisters, and married in 1709, William Fisher. Their son, also William Fisher, was Mayor of Philadelphia in 1773.

Having now given some outline of his parentage and family, we proceed with the account of Thomas Janney, the minister of the Society of Friends, and member of the Provincial Council of Pennsylvania. In his 21st year, or about 1654, he joined in profession of Friends' principles; and the following year received a gift in the ministry and thereafter he devoted much time to preaching. For this purpose he traveled extensively in England and Ireland, and it was said of him that he "had a fervent and sound testimony for the truth, and his conversation and course of life accorded with this doctrine." He was not exempt from persecution for his work in this behalf. In 1663 according to Besse, Anne Janney, of Hanford; Thomas Janney, Jr., and James Harrison, of the same place, suffered distress of goods. This Anne Janney was probably an aunt of Thomas, the latter being known at this time as "junior," and probably residing

temporarily at Hanford. Besse also reports that in 1671 and 1673 Thomas Janney suffered in goods for refusing to pay tithes; this was probably our subject, but might have been his father. It is said that he was also imprisoned several times. In 1669 he was preaching in Ireland.

Thomas Janney's residence in Cheshire was in the district called Styal, in Pownall Fee township. A letter to him from Phineas Pemberton dated 5th-mo 3d, 1682, requesting him to come to the funeral of the latter's daughter, Ann, is addressed "Thomas Janney, Shaddow Moss, Cheshire." This was near the village of Styal, in the district of the same name.

He married 9th-month 24th, 1660, at the house of James Harrison, in Pownall Fee, Margery Heath, of Horton. James Harrison, at whose house they were married, was a well-known minister of the Society of Friends, and afterwards became very prominent in public affairs in Pennsylvania. He had married in 1655 Anne Heath, sister to Margery.

After William Penn obtained the grant of Pennsylvania, Thomas Janney removed to that province, sailing in the ship *Endeavor*, which arrived 7th-month 29th, 1683, bringing his wife and four children, Jacob, Thomas, Abel and Joseph. In the Philadelphia list of arrivals his name is spelt "Janeway" and his wife's name given as "Margaret." In the Bucks county list of settlers the names are given correctly. In the former he is said to be from "Poonall," Cheshire, and in the latter "Stial," Cheshire, both correct, though misspelt. He brought two servants: John Nield, to serve 5 years and to have 50 acres of ground; and Hannah Falkner, to serve 4 years and have 50 acres.

He settled in Bucks county on a tract on the Delaware river about a mile below the present Yardley, having a front of quarter to half a mile on the river, and running inland about three miles. This was patented to him by the Commissioners of Property as 550 acres, on 7th-month 26th, 1691. This was in the original township of Makefield, now Lower Makefield township. Thomas Janney gave a lot of 72 square rods out of this tract to Falls Meeting of Friends, for a burying ground; it was the first public burial place in the county, although private ones had been in use. He conveyed it by deed dated 4th-month 4th, 1690, to William Yardley, Richard Hough, Joshua Hoopes and William Beakes, as trustees for the Meeting. The lot was situated on the high ground overlooking the river, and beside the road leading from Falls to the uppermost river plantations. This graveyard, with a stone fence around it, is still to be seen on the road below Yardley, and is occasionally used for burials.

Thomas Janney lived on this plantation, excepting when in Philadelphia attending the council, or on religious visits to other colonies, the balance of the time that he remained in Pennsylvania. Although his will has not been found on record, a deed of 1700 between his sons Jacob and Abel, states that it was dated 3d-month 21st, 1695, and that by it he left a part of the plantation on the river front, supposed to be 250 acres, (by later survey found to be 365 acres 12 perches) to his eldest son, Jacob, who sold it to his brother Abel. To his other sons he probably left the back part.

Besides the above, Thomas Janney had



A larger tract, about 1,000 acres, on the inland side of the township, towards Newtown; its lower end adjoined the back of his home plantation, and ran up back of the river lots for about 2 1/2 miles, and of varying width. When the township lines were more accurately laid down, part of this fell in Newtown township. No patent for this tract has been found on record, but both it and the river plantation are shown on Holmes' map.

That part of the inland plantation that lies in Newtown township has remained in the Janney family until the present time. Stephen T. Janney, Esq., now lives on part of it; the main part of his house was built about or a little before 1750, it is supposed by his great-grandfather, Thomas Janney, Treasurer of Bucks county 1757-61, and a Justice of the Peace and of the county courts, who was a grandson of Thomas Janney, the first owner of the property. The late John L. Janney (father of the present Prothonotary Thomas J. Janney, and of John L. Janney, who now resides there,) owned part of the original tract, adjoining his brother, Stephen's.

Thomas Janney was related by blood or marriage with many of the prominent early settlers of the county. As before stated, James Harrison, one of the largest landholders in the county, a member of the Provincial Council, and intimately associated with the Proprietary in public and private affairs, had married his sister-in-law, Anne Heath. Harrison's daughter, Phebe, married Phineas Pemberton, also a member of the Provincial Council and Assembly, who had the combined offices of Register and Recorder, and who was called by James Logan the "Father of Bucks county." Pemberton, in a number of letters extant, speaks of or addresses Thomas Janney as "uncle," the relationship being through his wife. William Yardley, another Councillor and Assemblyman, and landholder on the Delaware river, on the site of the village of Yardley, was connected through the Harrisons or Heaths. In a memorial of William Yardley, written by Thomas Janney, 6th month, 26th, 1698 after the former's death, he calls him his "dear friend and brother," saying: "What I have here written concerning this my dear friend and brother, is from my own knowledge, we having been intimate friends from our youth up, and since we came to America, we have had the advantage of frequent opportunities together, it having been our lot to live near teach other."

John Brock, who had a river plantation between William Yardley's and Thomas Janney's, was also a cousin of the latter. A letter from John's brother, Ralph Brock, of Bramhall, England, dated 12th-mo. 28th, 1696-7, to Phineas Pemberton, preserved among the Pemberton family papers, mentions Thomas Janney as his "deare Coz."

Thomas Janney was elected to the Provincial Council for one term of three years 1684, 1685, 1686. He qualified as a member 1st-mo. 20th, 1684, attesting to keep secret the debates of the body. The minutes of Council record his presence at most of the meetings, but have little else to say of him. He was a member again in 1691, apparently filling an unexpired term; as the minutes for this year have been lost, his tenure of office at this time, as well as his record during the term, are rather ob-

scure. Thomas Janney was one of the Justices of the Peace for Bucks county; in his day these justices held all the county courts; they were Judges of the Quarter Sessions, Common Pleas, Orphans' Court, etc. His commission was dated April 6, 1685, and renewed January 2, 1689.

He was one of the commissioners or jurors who made the first official division of Bucks county in 1692. They were directed to meet at Neshaminy Meeting House, in Middletown, on September 27th, of that year, and to divide the county into hundreds or other convenient divisions. They specified the boundaries of five townships, following more or less closely the township lines laid down on Holmes' map; these were: Makefield, Falls, Buckingham (afterwards Bristol, not the present Buckingham), Salem (now Bensalem), and Middletown.

While speaking of Thomas Janney's official record, it will be best to correct an error that has been repeated by several historians. They state that Arthur Cook and Thomas Janney were appointed on 9th-mo. 19th, 1686, County Surveyors of Bucks county. The minutes of Council of 9th-mo. 19th, 1686, contain an order of the Council to Robert Turner and John Barnes for Philadelphia county, and Arthur Cook and Thomas Janney for Bucks county, with the surveyors of the respective counties, to meet and lay out a more commodious road from Broad street in Philadelphia to the Falls. This shows conclusively that Cook and Janney were not the surveyors themselves.

While in America Thomas Janney continued his journeys on religious affairs as he had done before leaving England. He visited meetings of the Society of Friends in New England, Rhode Island, Long Island and Maryland, as well as in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. In 1695, in company with Griffith Owen, he returned to England to visit Friends' Meetings there. In the course of his travels he was taken ill at Hinchin, and expected to die, said to one of two relatives who came from Cheshire to see him. "It is some exercise to think of being taken away so far from my home and family, and also from my relations and friends in Cheshire;" and spoke further on religious matters, as recorded in a memorial of him by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. After this he recovered sufficiently to go to Cheshire, where he again became worse, and died 12th-mo. (February) 12th, 1696, attended by his sister. In the account just quoted and in Joseph Smith's catalogue of Friends' Books, it is stated that he was buried in "Friends' Burying Place," in Cheshire; but the Cheshire Monthly Meeting records record that he was buried 12th-mo. 15th, at Mobberly, where nearly all the Janneys of his own and preceding generations were buried. He was aged 63 years and had been a minister 42 years. The entry in the Meeting record mentioned above says: "Thomas Janney, of Pennsylvania, America, a minister on a visit to this his native country." A testimony concerning him by Falls Monthly Meeting, together with a further account compiled for this purpose, were published by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting in a book called "A Collection of Memorials Concerning Divers Deceased Ministers," etc., Philadelphia, 1787.

Although he can hardly be called an author, Thomas Janney wrote a few pieces



publication. He wrote an introduction to a book by Alexander Lawrence entitled, "An Answer to a Book Published by Richard Smith, of Westchester, Where The People of God called Quakers are particularly in this County of Chesapeake are cleared from Wrong, Injustice and False Accusations by him charged on them." This book was printed in 1777, and the introduction was, in its own words, "Given forth the 29th day of the tenth-Moneth, 1677, Thomas Janney." The principal writing was "An Epistle from Thomas Janney to Friends of Chesapeake, and by them desired to be made public." He dated this, "From my House at the Falls of Delaware, in the County of Bucks in Pennsylvania, the 16th day of the tenth-Moneth, 1693." It was printed and sold by T. Sowle, near the Meeting House, in White-Hart-Court, in Gracelove Street, London, 1694. Thomas Janney wrote a memorial of William Yardley, which has been quoted above. This was published in the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting's book of Memorials, which contained that of Thomas Janney himself being referred to.

Thomas Janney's descendants only branch has remained in Bucks county, the greater part of the family having moved, at an early period, to Virginia, some from there to the South and West.

The children of Thomas and Margery (Hough) Janney were:

Jacob; born 31-mo. 18th, 1662, died 1-mo. 6th, 1708, married Mary Hough.  
Martha; born 5th-mo. 17th, 1665, died 1-mo. 4th, 1665; buried at Moberly.  
Elizabeth; born 11th-mo. 15th, 1666, 11th-mo. 17th, 1666; buried at Moberly.

Thomas; born 12th-mo. 5th, 1667, married Rachael.

Abel; born 10th, mo. 29th. 1671, married Elizabeth Stacy.

Joseph; born 1st-mo. 26th. 1675, married Rebeckah Biles.

The two daughters as shown above died in infancy, while the four sons accompanied their father to Pennsylvania. The name of the son Thomas's wife is unknown, and although he had several children, nothing is known of his descendants. His wife was a daughter of Mahlon, a large landed proprietor in New York, and an eminent man in the early days. Joseph's wife was a daughter of John Biles, a Provincial Councillor, and a most prominent man in his day. Descendants of Abel and Joseph Janney moved to Loudon county, Virginia, and there many went to Baltimore, Annapolis and further; they generally held a high position in the localities which they lived. Among them was Abel M. Janney, the historian of the Friends.

Janneys that remained in Bucks are all descended from Thomas's son Jacob; he married Mary Hough, daughter of John Hough, who was a member of the Provincial Assembly in 1710 and had one son, Thomas, born 12th mo. 1707-8; he was Treasurer of Bucks 1757-61, and a Justice of the Peace for the county courts; he married Marjory, and had a son Jacob, who married Francis Briggs, and who was of the late Thomas Janney, the late Janney, Stephen T. Janney, Esq. others who are or were known to be present.

## THE LITTLE NESHAMINY.

### Sketch of Bucks County's Historic Stream.

A Paper Read Before the Midsummer Meeting of the Bucks County Historical Society at Galloway's Ford, June 20, 1897, by Rev. D. K. Turner, Hartsville.

Much of the history of any region is inimitably connected with the streams that pass through it. They have much to do with the life of the people and exert a wide influence upon their welfare. The Delaware, the Hudson, the Ohio, the Mississippi, not only delight the eyes of thousands that gaze upon them, but the business, the pleasures, the maintenance and the domestic and social habits of multitudes near them and at a distance are greatly affected by the fact that their waters flow in ceaseless current in the same channels year after year and from generation to generation. In like manner the water courses within our county have an important bearing upon the career of the inhabitants and deserve a place in the consideration and researches of this Society.

The Neshaminy creek, though a small stream, is almost entirely within the county and is worthy of attention, and I have chosen one branch of it as the subject of remark at this time. In traversing its bed toward its source about midway we find it divided into two parts, one coming from the northwest and the other from the southwest. The former is the larger and is often called the North Branch or the Big Neshaminy. The latter is the smaller and is denominated the West Branch or Little Neshaminy. To this let us for a time direct our minds. Its source is in Montgomery county, a few miles west of the county line, and its general direction east and northeast. Soon after entering our county it is joined by a confluent of considerable size, the Park creek, a name derived from the fact that it runs through the celebrated Græme Park farm.

Toward the last part of the life of William Penn, when he was unable by sickness to direct the affairs of the Province of Pennsylvania, his wife, Hannah Penn, sent from England Sir William Keith to act as Governor. He discharged the duties of his office from May 1, 1717, to 1726, nine years. In 1718 he purchased the tract of land, a part of which was afterwards known as "Græme Park." It consisted of 1200 acres, and was a portion of 5088 acres which the Commissioners of William Penn in 1706 deeded to Samuel Carpenter, a wealthy merchant of Philadelphia. After Mr. Carpenter's death his executors sold it to Andrew Hamilton, who in a few weeks transferred it to Gov. Keith for 500 pounds, or 2500 dollars in Federal money, a fraction more than two



collaps an acre. Most of it lay in Horsham township, in what was then Philadelphia county, but a part was in Warrington, in Bucks county, and there is a tradition that the Governor built a grist mill by the creek on the north side of the county line. A short distance east of the creek he erected a pointed stone dwelling, 56 feet long by 25 feet wide, two stories, being each 14 feet high, and third story ceiled, with dormer windows, a mansion of much more extensive dimensions than any in the region at that time. Separate from the main building in the rear were a kitchen, offices, malt house and a large barn. It was constructed in the most substantial manner of sandstone, with beams and floors of oak, and the walls are still standing much as they were 175 years ago, though a new roof was rendered necessary a few years since by the ravages of time. The front is toward the northwest, and a large lawn shaded by stately trees slopes nearly to the creek.

The principal outer door, opening into a hall with a stairway, is divided into two sections, the division running lengthwise from top to bottom, the two leaves joined by strong iron hinges. The walls of most of the rooms are lined with panelled wainscoting from the floor to the ceiling, and must have originally presented a fine appearance. A handsome balustrade guards the stairway. From the windows of the third story a pleasant prospect is presented over a wide extent of fields and meadows. Here the Governor used to spend the summer, attended sometimes by many of the gay, refined and cultivated from the metropolis. They traced the finny tribes along the Neshaminy and hunted game through the woods, then almost undisturbed by the hand of man. The whole vicinity was covered with forests, and at the Governor's request, in 1722, the Council of the Province directed that a road should be opened from his country seat to the present village of Horshamville, and thence to Round Meadow Run, now Willow Grove. At the same time the County Line road was surveyed from the York road somewhat beyond the Governor's place.

Governor Keith's wife had a daughter by a former marriage, Miss Ann Diggs. She was married when young to Dr. Thomas Graeme, a prominent physician of Philadelphia. To this gentleman and Thomas Souder, in 1726, the Governor made over for 500 pounds all his personal property at his plantation, consisting of 11 slaves, several of them children; 20 horses, cows, sheep, hogs, wagons, implements, furniture and a large collection of silver and table ware and domestic utensils, the inventory of which is still preserved by the present owner of the estate, Mrs. Abel Penrose. Sir William must have lived in a considerable degree of splendor, and extended abundant hospitality to numerous friends. In 1728 he left America for London, where he resided till his death in 1740, at the age of nearly 80 years. It is stated by the historian, Proud, that his last days were passed in penury. After his departure to England his wife, Lady Ann Keith, held the property till 1739, when she transferred her claim to her son-in-law, Dr. Thomas Graeme.

His winter home was on Chestnut street, near Sixth, Philadelphia, in which

city he held several important offices. He was at different times a member of the Council, Port Physician and Collector of the Port. By appointment of Governor Gordon in 1731 he became one of the three Justices of the Supreme Court, which position he occupied nearly twenty years, and in addition, in 1732, he was made Justice of Oyer and Terminer and General Jail Delivery for Philadelphia, Bucks and Chester counties. In this capacity he was one of the first Judges that ever acted for Bucks county. He continued to own the park in Horsham till his decease, and after the death of his wife in 1765 he resided there permanently. His earthly career closed suddenly in 1772, when he was nearly 84 years old. The property, comprising almost 1000 acres, was not diminished during his life. A large circle of friends and acquaintances held him in high esteem, and his ability and integrity in the discharge of his public and official duties were without a stain.

His daughter, Elizabeth Graeme, to whom her father bequeathed his estate, was an accomplished young lady, highly educated, intellectual and of literary tastes. In 1772, but a few months before his demise, she married Hugh Henry Ferguson, who had come to this country not long previously from Scotland. He resided with her on the plantation three or four years, but when the War of Independence commenced he espoused the side of the British and engaged in the royal service, while her sympathies were with the Americans. When the English forces were withdrawn from Philadelphia he went with them to New York, and was in the commissary department with the rank of Colonel. After the close of the war a separation took place between him and his wife, and they were never reunited. He was attainted of treason for joining the enemy and lost all right to the estate of Mrs. Ferguson, and she herself came near having the Park property wrested from her hands for supposed complicity with him, but by an Act of the Legislature in 1781 the title to it was vested in her, and she resided upon it till 1791, when having been reduced by previous sales to 555 acres it was sold to William Smith, of Philadelphia, who had married her niece. Soon after this it was still further reduced in size, and in 1801 the remainder, 204 acres, came into the possession of Samuel Penrose, of Richland township, Bucks county, at whose death his son, William Penrose, became the owner. He made extensive improvements in the grounds and buildings, though the main parts of the present dwelling were erected in 1810 by his father. William deceased in 1863, having bequeathed the farm to his son, Abel Penrose, whose widow now holds it and resides thereon. The old mansion was used as a tenant house for a considerable period, but is at present unoccupied and serves occasionally for a granary. It is regarded by the Penrose family, who have owned it almost a hundred years, as a sacred relic of antiquity, worthy of being preserved and handed down to posterity.

Mrs. Ferguson, a short time before disposing of the estate, probably about 1797, removed to the house of Seneca Lukens, two miles distant, on the road to Philadelphia, where she departed this life in



1801, aged 70 years. She was an elegant, refined lady, of most agreeable manners, hospitable and charitable well nigh to her own pecuniary injury. While the American army was at White Marsh, it is stated, she sent them to alleviate their necessities several times linen and woolen cloth raised and manufactured on her own place, and that she received in return letters of thanks from General Washington.

In looking over the old deeds belonging to the Penrose family I observed that the blank parts of some of them had been cut out. The explanation of this was discovered in a paper in the handwriting of Mrs. Ferguson, which had been carefully preserved, and which I copied, as follows:

"The reason why these parchments are deficient is, a couple of young ladies wanted to make some small pocketbooks to keep money in, and they took the plain part of the parchment. This I know to be the fact. Signed. E. FERGUSON.

"March 12, 1791."

#### MILLS.

Among the most important features of Neshaminy creek are the mills that are planted near it and are run principally or wholly by its waters. One of them is half a mile north of Hartsville, on the York road, now owned by John M. Darrah. The exact date of the erection of it and of the dam, an eighth of a mile west, has not come down to us, but it was about 1783. The land on which it stands is part of a tract of 1000 acres bought by James Boyden, of London, from Wm. Penn. By proprietary warrant May 26, 1684, 484 acres were laid off for him in what is now Warwick township. This tract was in the Boyden family 57 years, and appears to have been occupied by few settlers during that long period. In 1741 John Boyden, James Boyden and Mrs. Mary Boyden Shute, grandchildren of James Boyden, Sen., sold 325 acres to Thomas Howell, of Philadelphia, and he, the next year, 1742, sold to John Griffith 54½ acres, on a portion of which is the site of the mill, for six pounds, Pennsylvania currency, or \$16. In 1761 John Griffith sold 2 acres and 33 perches, on which is the mill, to Thomas McCane. How long he held it is uncertain, as there is a break in the line of the deeds for 25 years, covering the time of the Revolution. In 1786 Eleazer Twining sold the lots to John Carr and Joseph Hart, and later the same year John Carr parted with his interest in it to Col. Joseph Hart for 25 pounds or \$66. The persons, who afterwards owned it in succession, were Col. William Hart, Josiah Hart, Benjamin F. Wright, Capt. William Hart, John Polk and John M. Darrah, the present owner. The mill building used to stand twenty-five rods east of the York road, down the race, off the main line of travel. But Josiah Hart about 1813, soon after he purchased it, said, "I want to be during the day where I can see the people." So he removed it to the west side of the turnpike, the position it has maintained ever since. In 1861 it was rebuilt by J. M. Darrah and fitted with new machinery. Benjamin F. Wright, who owned it for a short time, 1839-40, afterwards took his family to Philadelphia and was elected member of the Common Council of the consolidated city, and one of three building in-

spectors, in which latter capacity he served by re-election ten or twelve years. The owners of the property have not always been practical millers, but have often employed other men to manage the mill. Among those who within the last sixty years have conducted the business, the following may be mentioned: Jacob Slack, Samuel Pool, Charles Briggs, Samuel Hugh and Joseph M. Kirk.

#### MEARNS' MILL.

Another mill on the West Branch is called Mearns' upper mill, farther east than Darrah's mill and down the stream. Exactly at what date it was built is unknown, but it must have been before 1777, for in an old deed, in possession of Hugh Mearns, of 75 acres sold by William Thompson to Hugh Ramsey, dated 1782, mention is made of a grist mill erected thereon before 1777, and of an oil mill and tan yard built between 1777 and 1782. The land is part of a tract of 5000 acres, which William Penn, May 12, 1684, caused to be surveyed in Bucks county. Out of this, July 13, 1684, one thousand acres were sold to James Claypoole in Warwick. For non payment of what was due to the proprietary, Sheriff William Biles in 1713 sold from this tract 400 acres to Joseph Claypoole, son of James, and Joseph in 1727 sold the same to Nicholas Hellings, and in 1734 Hellings parted with it to Thomas Dungan, of Northampton. In 1739 Dungan transferred 91 acres to Samuel Faries for 112 pounds Pennsylvania currency, or \$299, or about \$2.25 an acre. In 1777 the administrators of Samuel Faries sold 75 acres to William Thompson, and he in 1782 deeded it to Hugh Ramsey. This is the history of a portion of the land attached to the mill.

Another portion was procured in this way: The Commissioners of William Penn in 1714 sold to Mary Crap 1100 acres and she was to pay one English shilling, or 23 cents, every year for every hundred acres. In 1727 this tract was sold to Edward Pierce, of Philadelphia. In 1729 George Claypoole became the owner, and his son, Abraham Claypoole, followed him in the ownership of 550 acres. He in 1746 transferred 100 acres to Samuel Faries.

Another piece of land connected with the mill ran through this devious career. John Bland and John Mann, of London, in 1729, conveyed, by their attorneys in Philadelphia, one-third of 638 acres and 44 perches to Robert Mearns. After his decease his children, Hugh, Agnes, Jennet and Mary, inherited it. One of the daughters, Agnes, married John Randle. Their children, John Randle and Jane Randle, in 1786, parted with their share of the land to Hugh Mearns for £100 (Pennsylvania money) or \$266.

Some of the property has been in possession of the Mearns family since 1729, 168 years, and has passed by inheritance from one to another, the present owner, Hugh Mearns, being in the sixth generation from Robert Mearns. A large business in the manufacture of flour was formerly done at the upper mill and previous to 1850 heavy teams were employed in hauling grain and flour from and to Philadelphia. Though the building is still standing it is no longer used for milling purposes. Hugh Mearns, grandfather of the present owner, was a student at Princeton College four years and graduated in 1823. One of the reports of the faculty, dated September 27, 1820, marks his scholarship as "distinguished."



Mearns' lower mill, as it was formerly termed, or Ross' mill, stands nearly half a mile from the upper mill, probably on the tract belonging, 150 years ago, to Samuel Fares, and afterward to William Mearns. The two mills were held by the Mearns family for many years and it is now impossible to accurately distinguish the history of the one from that of the other. The upper is believed to be the older of the two. In 1858 the lower mill and the farm attached to it passed into the hands of Clark Ross and Lewis Ross, by whom it was rebuilt in 1869. A saw mill is located by the side of the grain mill, where, for a long period, numerous logs of oak, hickory and other woods were manufactured into lumber. In 1893, after the death of Lewis Ross, by an untimely accident at the mill, the place became the property of C. F. Kinbred, of Philadelphia, its present owner, by whom a new barn has been erected, in 1897. The ruins of the old mill, built about 1780, are still visible, but no flax seed has been crushed there for several generations. As one, or both, of these mills was in existence when Washington had his army encamped along the Neshaminy for two weeks in 1777, at no great distance, it is highly probable that his soldiers may have been supplied with corn meal and rye and wheat flour from them and thus the waters of the stream may have contributed to the defence of the country in time of peril.

After the death of Rev. Nathaniel Irwin, one of the pastors of Neshaminy church, which took place in 1812, two of his granddaughters, children of his son, Henry Irwin, became members of the family of Robert Mearns, at the upper mill, and were trained with care and wisdom until their maturity. One of them, Rebecca, married a Mr. Hindman, resided subsequently in the State of New York, was the mother of twelve children and died at Albany, N. Y., December 30, 1887, in the 81st year of her age.

#### LONG'S MILL.

Another mill on the Neshaminy, usually called Long's mill, is situated in Warrington township, near the western line of Warminster. The present structure was built by Hugh Long in 1855, and a steam engine was placed in it to run the machinery, when the water was low. This was found a valuable assistant several years, but it is not now employed. I have not been able to learn when the first mill was reared, but it must have been early in the present century. The immigrant from Ireland, who originally settled on the tract was Andrew Long, born in 1691. His son, William, born in 1727, his grandson, Hugh, and his great-grandsons, William and Thomas, successively owned the farm, which is entirely surrounded by public roads. It was subsequently held by Job Walton and now by Henry Shepard, of Plymouth, Pa.

#### THE PULLING MILL.

Across the Bristol road from Neshaminy cemetery on the bank of the creek, 75 or 100 years ago, a pulling mill and dam used to stand on the property of Col. William Long, where for a long time people brought home-made woolen cloth to be finished for use. The sound of its

machinery is not now remembered by the oldest inhabitants, and the waters curl and ripple over the ruins of what was once an aspiring dam.

#### BRIDGES.

Before 1850 but four bridges spanned the west branch of the Neshaminy, one on the turnpike between Doylestown and the Willow Grove; one on the Bristol road near Neshaminy church; one on the York road above Hartsville, and one at Mearns' upper mill on the Almshouse road. Within the latter half of this century six substantial new bridges have been placed, where formerly people were compelled to ford the stream, which sometimes in freshets became dangerous or absolutely impassable; two on the County Line, one on the Street road; one on the township line between Warminster and Warrington, and two at Ross' mill.

One of the oldest roads crossing the Little Neshaminy, is the "York road," so called from the facts, that for a long period previous to the construction of railroads it was the main thoroughfare between Philadelphia and New York, on which stages ran that carried numerous passengers. Where this highway passes over the creek in Warwick township, above Hartsville, a stone bridge was built, as stated by Gen. W. W. H. Davis in his History of the County, in 1755, which was replaced in 1789 by a much larger and finer one with six stone arches. This stood for the most part unimpaired until an unprecedented flood occurred in 1865, when it was undermined and dangerously injured. Its treacherous condition was unobserved for months, when one morning with scarcely a premonitory tremor an arch fell, and in the course of the forenoon three or four more arches quietly and deliberately gave way, and it became nearly all a mass of ruins. The turnpike company, by whom the franchise of the York road had been assumed, were obliged to restore it, which they did with a substantial covered structure of timber in 1866.

Over the first bridge at this point, soon after its erection, Benjamin Franklin, who in 1753 was appointed Deputy Postmaster General for the Confederate colonies, used to travel on business connected with the mail service between New York and Philadelphia, and this was the route over which the mails between what are now two cities with millions of people were formerly carried.

The bridge on the turnpike leading to Doylestown near Frog Hollow, or Neshaminy post office, or Paul Valley, as it is variously termed, was originally built over a hundred years ago. The present structure was reared in 1821.

The County Line Road crosses the two branches of the Little Neshaminy, which unite in Warrington to form the main body of the stream, and on neither of them for more than a hundred years after they were opened to travel was there any bridge. I have often forded them on horseback and in a carriage, when I have sighed for something to keep me high above treacherous mud, rocks and water beneath me. Similar was the fact with the crossing near Long's Mill. Pedestrians were compelled to trust themselves to a shaky, half-decayed log, fastened on each shore by a chain to a tree. Now at each of these places



there is a handsome stone arch bridge. The one at the Park creek was erected by Bucks and Montgomery counties in 1853; the one farther up the County Line near the school house in Warrington, with five arches of dressed stone, in 1865. The Commissioners superintending the latter were Jacob Slifer, Abraham C. Cole, Tobias C. Hance, from Montgomery county, and Jesse Black, Peter Staates, Daniel Clewell, from Bucks county.

The bridge on the Street road a short distance below the Doylestown turnpike was built in 1859 under the charge of Andrew Dudbridge, Commissioner.

The bridge near Long's mill, having six stone arches, was erected in 1869 at an expense of about \$13,000, by Commissioners, Thomas Heed, David Seip, and Moses O. Kulp. The master-mason was James O. Cozens.

The first bridge at Mearns' upper mill, which had stood there probably nearly a century, was replaced by a new one four or five years ago.

Near Ross' mill two bridges are required by the crookedness of the stream within a short distance of each other. One was erected in 1868 under the management of Josiah W. Leidy, Thomas Heed and David Seip, Commissioners, and the other in 1890 by J. B. Tomlinson, W. Worthington and Tilghman Barron, Commissioners.

Before a bridge existed near Neshaminy Church on the Bristol road, a hundred years since or more, the fording place was an eighth of a mile below, near the residence of R. H. Darrah, and at that point a large log used to be seen in the edge of the water, on which the soldiers of the army under Washington, when encamped near by, according to tradition, washed their clothes. A covered wooden bridge on solid stone abutments bore the storms and floods more than half a century, but by the great freshets of 1865 it was somewhat moved from the perpendicular, and the present one mostly of iron was erected in 1869.

Of the ten bridges now covering the creek five are of stone with neat symmetrical arches; the others are of iron and wood combined:

#### NESHAMINY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

In the edge of Warwick township, on the line of Warminster, at the point where the Neshaminy passes across the Bristol road from the latter township to the former, stands the Neshaminy Presbyterian Church. I have treated of its history and the biography of some of its pastors before this society in former years and it is unnecessary to dwell upon them now. The cemetery connected with the church is a little distance west of the sanctuary, and the first house of public worship, built in 1628, stood within its limits. The oldest tombstone is that of Cornelius McCartney, 1731. Probably some may have been buried there before, whose graves were not marked. It is the testimony of tradition that the remains of some soldiers, who died in the Revolution were interred there, and it is possible that deaths may have occurred in the army while Washington was encamped in the immediate vicinity. In 1873 the congregation of Neshaminy of Warwick purchased and added to the graveyard ten acres of very desirable ground, which enlarged its original size four fold. By

the efforts of James Grier, Esq., of Warrington, and others a few years ago, a fund of several thousand dollars was accumulated for the care and improvement of the cemetery. This has been deposited with the Doylestown Trust Co., the interest being expended under the direction of the Trustees of the Church.

#### WASHINGTON'S ENCAMPMENT.

In the summer of 1777 Washington, then in New Jersey with his army, learned that a British fleet was preparing to convey a large body of soldiers from New York to attack some point held by the Americans; but he could not discover what was its destination. Fearing it might be Philadelphia he slowly marched toward that city. Those were days in which the magnetic telegraphs and steam vessels were unknown and reliable information of the enemy's movements could not be obtained for several weeks. The general's forces crossed the Delaware at Coryell's ferry, now New Hope, and another point above, and proceeded down the York Road; spent a night at the Little Neshaminy above Hartsville, where the headquarters were in the house now owned by Mrs. Sarah Campbell, and thence advanced to Germantown. Still in doubt as to the designs of the British fleet he retraced his steps after a few days to the same point on the Neshaminy he had occupied and remained there nearly two weeks, from August 10 to August 23. A whipping post was set up on the west side of road on land now owned by John Van Buskirk, by way of warning to the refractory and disobedient. The army was composed of four divisions under Generals Greene, Sterling, Stephens and Lincoln. These were subdivided into eight brigades under Generals Maxwell, Scott, Weidner, Muhlenberg, Wayne, Woodford, Nash and Conway. Marquis De LaFayette, then scarcely twenty-one years of age, who had been appointed Major General by Congress a short time previously, was there as a member of Washington's immediate family, but with no separate command.

After waiting in anxious expectation for news of the enemy thirteen days and enjoying the rest and abundant supplies, which the fertile valley of the Neshaminy afforded, tidings came that the hostile ships had appeared in the Chesapeake Bay: then the General knew that Philadelphia was in danger, and he at once put his men en route thither. In the course of the following three weeks the battle of the Brandywine took place, and as the Americans had but 13,000 and the British 18,000, the latter won the day and ere long took possession of Philadelphia.

In 1819 a Latin ode was composed on the Neshaminy by Dr. Isaac C. Snowden, who then resided near Hartsville. It was subsequently published in the *Philadelphia Magazine*, of which Dr. Snowden was the editor. He was a gentleman of fine abilities and unusual classical attainments, as is shown in the ode, a copy of which was furnished me by Mrs. Esther Mearns, of Ivyland. I will not inflict upon you the Latin, but will read a translation written by Benjamin C. Snowden and James Ross Snowden in 1872.

"TO NESHAMINY, A RIVER OF PENNSYLVANIA."



Through the green vallies and among  
high and shady groves,  
Not timed to the lyre nor cared for by the  
muse,  
Here running and murmuring the Ne-  
shaminy rolls its waters.  
Delightful stream, O Neshaminy, where-  
ever one may look,

Some beautiful object is to be seen, al-  
ways agreeable to me.  
Near its green bank stands a venerable  
church,  
Surrounded with oaks and other trees of  
the wood;

Here the ploughman, the herdsman and  
many farmers come  
To lay the incense of their hearts upon  
its holy altar.

Nearby a rude bridge spans the shady  
stream,

And over the rocks and shores the falling  
waters plunge.

On a steep crag overlooking the  
forest,

The ruins of a small and ancient mill are  
seen;

Above this the home of the pastor rears  
its white summit,

Blooming with flowers amidst the forest  
trees, graceful to the sight,

Toward the south, devoted to funeral  
rites, a piece of land

Contains the ashes of humble farmers  
and kind neighbors.

In the circle of the world no place can be  
found

So agreeable and beautiful as this little  
spot."

Perhaps you will bear with me, if I de-  
tain you a few moments longer by read-  
ing the following lines, never published,  
composed by Mrs. Souder, of Philadel-  
phia, about 35 years since.

#### STANZAS TO THE NESHAMINY.

The banks and braes of Bonny Doan  
Were sung, Auld Scotia's Bard, by thee;  
In humble strains I fain would sing  
Thy praises, fair Neshaminy!

Shaded by many an ancient oak  
And many a drooping willow tree,  
In tranquil beauty thou dost glide,  
Charming all hearts, Neshaminy.

The Tennents School boys hither come,  
Eager thy placid face to see,  
And here with barbed hooks and line  
They rob thee oft, Neshaminy.

I've wondered on thy lonely banks,  
And plucked the wild flowers on the lea;  
And well I know a charm there dwells,  
In thy bright streams, Neshaminy.

The wise and good of other days  
Have heavenly wisdom learned of thee;  
Perchance in heaven they sing the grace  
That brought them to Neshaminy.

The patriot soldier hither come  
From war's rude din awhile to flee,  
But thine is all a peaceful flame,  
Like thine own waves, Neshaminy.

And now farewell! to other scenes  
The voice of duty calleth me,  
Yet never from any heart shall fade  
Thy lovely stream, Neshaminy.

## OLDEN-TIME RESIDENTS.

Some of the Pioneers of the  
Nockamixon Flats.

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE

Buckwampun Historical and Literary  
Association at Riegelsville, June  
19th, 1897, by Rev. S. S. Diehl, of  
Kintnersville.

When the early settlers of the township  
of Nockamixon felt that they were able  
to have a township organization they  
made application to the courts. The ap-  
plication was made in 1742, the survey of  
the township lines was made in 1743, and  
was confirmed in 1746. The township  
lines emoraced what now constitutes  
Nockamixon and Bridgeton townships.  
There was located within the bounds of  
the township what was known as the  
famous Nockamixon flats. This name  
was applied to that portion of the Dela-  
ware river valley which begins at the  
foot of the well known Pennsylvania  
Palisades, or Narrows, and extends along  
the Delaware for some distance. It was  
in these flats where we find the Indians  
entrenched and where they tarried long  
after the white man came to encroach  
upon their possessions. It was from  
these flats that the Red Men finally re-  
treated and cast a long lingering look  
upon the happy hunting and fishing  
grounds, and heaved a heavy sigh over  
the graves of his departed ancestry  
which lay buried beside the banks of the  
beautiful Delaware. It was in these flats  
where we find the pale-face make their  
first effort to get possession of that which  
rightfully belonged to another. The  
western portion of the township was set-  
tled and the tide of settlement kept on  
along the Gallows Run and over the  
township highlands until it finally reach-  
ed the river valley north of the Narrows.  
The fact that the Indian reserved these  
lowlands until the last is very natural.  
They afforded them opportunities and  
advantages which other localities more  
in the interior did not furnish. They  
here had the advantage of using their  
canoes upon the placid Delaware and also  
were able to engage in fishing which was  
one of their favorite amusements, and  
also a form of subsistence, besides the  
soil was of the best and the scenery of  
the most beautiful. The time has, how-  
ever, come when the land of the Red Men  
must pass into other hands. The com-  
mand has gone forth that the land must  
be vacated. The Penn heirs, who laid  
claim to everything tangible, have made  
provision for the favorite haunts of the  
Indian. We find that a grant of a large  
tract of land was made by Thomas Penn  
to Jeremiah Langborne, who was one of  
his lieutenants, for a small consideration.  
From deeds and grants which it was our  
privilege to examine we find that the



Nockamixon flats and the adjoining hill was a part of this grant, for we find that on the 17th day of August, 1738, Jeremiah Langhorne deeded a tract of 71 acres and some perches to John Chapman, who was an extensive land owner at this time. This same tract was deeded by the son of John Chapman, John, Jr., on the 8th day of June, 1767, to Benjamin Williams. We also find by deed that on the 21st of March, 1769, the executor of Jeremiah Langhorne, and the executors of Langhorne Biles, sold a large tract at public vendue, as the deed says, to Benjamin Williams. We find that Benjamin Williams, a son of Jeremiah Williams, of Quakertown, N. J., purchased 515 acres and 31 perches in all, in the hill regions of Nockamixon and the Nockamixon flats (the upper end), extending to the upper end of the present village of Upper Black's Eddy. The original purchaser never lived in Nockamixon, but he placed the property in the hands of his two sons, Benjamin, occupying the northern part of the tract, with his residence near the site of Owen Stover's dwellings; William occupied the southern part with his residence just back of the present house on Melchor Ealer's farm. As near as we can get at the facts, the Williams' took possession of their property in 1769. We find that Benjamin Williams, Sr., also purchased about five hundred acres in the upper part of Tinicum township, along the Delaware, for his son, Jeremiah, and about the same amount for another son, Samuel, in Buckingham township. This fact proves that the original purchaser knew a good thing when he saw it. The Williams' claim to be descendants of Roger Williams, of Rhode Island. Jeremiah Williams, the grandfather of the first settlers of the Nockamixon flats, emigrated from Long Island to Quakertown, N. J., giving as his reason for emigrating that the people of Long Island were too proud for his tastes. There is a family tradition that Williams was very intimate with the few Indians that still tarried in the neighborhood and who at times came back to their original haunts. Soon after Williams took possession of his property the young Indians used to take apples from the orchard and muddy the excellent spring of water. Williams expostulated with the Indians and Nutimus, their old chief, when the chief replied that it was true the Indians sold the land but not the apples and the spring. Williams asked them what they wanted for the apples and the spring, when the chief replied, five bushels of Indian corn, five bushels of buckwheat and five loaves of rye bread. After that neither the apples nor the spring were any more disturbed. This teaches us again the great fact that the Indian was as good as his word, a lesson the white man may learn with profit. A story is related that Benjamin Williams had a most excellent horse. The Doans, who were always on the lookout for anything extra in the line of trotters, were after the animal, when Benjamin very good naturedly took the horse to his kitchen for safe keeping. When the great Indian chief, Nutimus, died, it is said that an invitation was extended to the Williams to attend the funeral and they complied with the request. The great chief was buried in the old Indian

graveyard on the farm of Melchor Ealer. Here I find myself to contradict the statements of Mr. Buck, the historian, concerning the great Indian chief. This is something I do not like to do, yet my research may be very different from his and consequently may have reached very different conclusions. I base my statements upon accompanying circumstances and upon family tradition. He claims that Nutimus, an old, white-haired, bent Indian, emigrated to Ohio in 1750 (about) where he died about 1780. It is, we think, an established fact that Nutimus is buried in the graveyard in the Nockamixon flats. It is hardly likely that a father would hand down to his children such an important statement if it were all false. Again, it is hardly likely that Nutimus would have been brought all the way from Ohio for burial to a place from which the Indians were forced thirty years before. Nor is it likely that the Indians would have vacated the flats 19 or 20 years before the settlement thereof.

We find a patent from Thomas Miffin, Esq., Governor of Pennsylvania, wherein he grants 515 acres and 31 perches to Benjamin Williams. This was the patent for the tract for which deeds had been given previously, but they desired a State patent to make their title fully clear. This patent was issued on the 20th day of February, 1792. On the 1st day of April, 1803, we find a deed where Benjamin Williams, Sr., gives a tract of 257 1/2 acres to Benjamin Williams, Jr., his son. From the deeds it appears that the first settler, Benjamin Williams, afterward moved to Newtown, Bucks county. On the first of April, 1818, he and his wife, Dorothy, gave a deed to Jacob Stover, of Bedminster township, Bucks county. In this deed it is stated that Benjamin Williams is a yeoman in Newtown township. On the first of April, 1803, we also find by a deed that Benjamin Williams, Sr., deeded a tract to William Williams, his son. It appears from these facts that Benjamin Williams, Sr., was still living in 1803, and that his sons got full possession of their respective properties that year. Benjamin Williams, the first settler, died in 1824 and was buried in the famous Pursell graveyard below the village of Upper Black's Eddy. He had five children, two sons and three daughters. The sons were John and David; the daughters, Lydia, married to a Mr. Quinn; Ann, who died unmarried, and Rachel, who died April 7, 1881, aged 87 years. John Williams, a son of Benjamin Williams, emigrated to Ohio about 1830. David Williams, another son, removed to Woodbury, N. J., where he died. He has one son and daughter living. The son is a physician at Woodbury, N. J., and Anna also lives in Woodbury and is unmarried. William Williams, the other son of Benjamin Williams, Sr., had one son, Charles, and no daughters. Charles was the father of William and Charles Williams, who still live on a portion of the old tract on the hills adjoining the Nockamixon flats.

Another settler who found his way to the flats was John Pursell, who came from Ireland, bought a large tract of land comprising the lower part of the Nockamixon flats and the adjoining highland, including the famous Bridgeton "mine spring" and extending even up the hill



to near the Chestnut Ridge school house. The village of Upper Black's Eddy is built upon this tract. He has a great many of his descendants living in the immediate locality of his purchase. His purchase was a mile in extent along the river front extending from near the Upper Black's Eddy hotel to near the Tinicum line, where the property of the Tinicum Williams' began. The exact date of his purchase is somewhat in doubt, as we could not get possession of the original deeds. But taking all circumstances in consideration, as well as statements of one of his descendants, we place his purchase in 1769 or 1770.

We are very strongly inclined to the idea that this tract may also have been a part of Jeremiah Langhorne's estate, and we know from other deeds in our possession that the executor of Langhorne had public sale in 1769. Davis, in his History of Bucks County, places his coming there about 1750, but accompanying circumstances disprove this statement. It is hardly likely that portion was settled 19 years before the upper flat and also before the upper part of Tinicum, where Jeremiah Williams settled. Again Davis says that the original settler died in 1810, and in this date we think he is correct or nearly so, judging from the date of sales of his property as we find by deeds. The descendants claim that he died not a very aged man. Now, if he settled there in 1750 and lived till 1810, it would make 60 years of residence, granting that he would be only 20 years old when he settled would make him 80 years old, this we would call an old man. Besides, T. Elwood Williams, a descendant, an aged man, and one whom I find to possess a mind hard to be surpassed for names, dates, etc., is positive in his conviction that the settlement was not earlier than 1769 and possibly as late as 1771. He said it was not very many years before the Revolution, and he fixed the date as 1770. Taking all these facts in consideration we will place the time of his settlement in 1769 or 1770. Mr. Pursell's dwelling was on the opposite side of the canal, near the stream which is the outlet of the mine spring, and very nearly opposite the present residence of William H. Gwinner. Mr. Pursell was a very progressive man, and he and his descendants played a very important part in local affairs of all kinds. He left quite a family, and is the ancestor of all the Pursells that live in this part of the country, both in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The original settler died in 1810 and was buried in the old graveyard on the top of Narrows hill, near the present residence of Isaac White. Mr. Pursell left three sons and two daughters. The sons were Thomas, Brice and John. The daughters were married, the one to John Houseworth, the other to Benjamin Holden. After the original settler's death the property was divided between his children according to his last will and testament, made in April, 1793.

Thomas Pursell, a son of John Pursell, had six sons and one daughter. The sons were William, Dennis, John, Thomas, Jacob and Frederick; the daughter was Mary. He lived in the old Pursell mansion, fronting the Delaware. (This man was the founder of Pursell's ferry, at Lehnburg.)

Brice Pursell, a son of John Pursell,

had five sons and four daughters. The sons were Thomas, John, Brice, Hugh and Daniel; the daughters were Ann, Evaline, Hannah and Mary. Hannah, married to a Mr. Slack, is still living. Brice Pursell died September 26th, 1830, aged 51 years. He was for many years a liam H. Gwinner now lives. He built a still house which is yet standing at the present time. For many years distilling was carried on here, and farmers found a ready sale for many of their products. Many amusing stories are related about men imbibing too freely at the still, yet some people will tell us "the whiskey of old did not intoxicate." We suppose Pursell's whiskey had some of the elements of the present so-called "Jersey lightning," on account of its close proximity to that soil.

John Pursell, a son of John Pursell, Sr., had two sons, Brice and Benjamin. He went West, where he died.

William Pursell, a son of Thomas Pursell, lived and died in Bridgeton, and is buried in the Pursell grave yard. He had two sons and one daughter, Thomas, who is dead, and William, who lives on top of Bridgeton hill; Catharine is married to a Mr. Osner, and is still living.

Dennis Pursell, a son of Thomas Pursell, had six sons and eight daughters. The sons were Thomas, Daniel, Isaac, Dennis, John and Robert; the daughters, Mary, Susannah, Jane, Lydia, Ann, Sarah, Ellen and Martha. Isaac, John and Dennis are dead, also Jane and Lydia. The rest are living.

John Pursell, son of Thomas Pursell, had one son and three daughters. Fred and Sallie are living, Ann and Tillie are dead.

Thomas Pursell, a son of Thomas Pursell, Sr., had four sons and no daughters. The sons are Levi, Jacob, William and Dennis. Two of the brothers, Levi and another, are dead, know nothing about the other two.

Jacob Pursell, son of Thomas Pursell, had one son and four daughters, Hiram, living at White Haven; Catharine and Ann are dead, Rebecca and Alice are living.

Frederick Pursell, a son of Thomas Pursell, had three daughters. Ella is living, Mary and Ada are dead. Mary was married to Job Fulmer.

Thomas Pursell, son of Brice Pursell, had three sons and four daughters. Brice is dead, Marshall and William are living; Ann, Catharine and Rebecca are dead, Mary Jane is living. Thomas was married to Eliza Mahall, a daughter of Martin Marshall, the fourth son of Edward Marshall, the famous Indian walker.

John Pursell, a son of Brice Pursell, had two sons and one daughter. He was for many years a school teacher, also a Justice of the Peace and surveyor. He was a man possessing an extraordinary mind in the line of mathematics, as his papers, etc., bear ample testimony thereto. His son, Benjamin W. Pursell, is a well known factor Bucks county politics, being at one time Register of Wills in the county. His son, Sextus C. Pursell, is also well known in political circles, he was elected to the House of Representatives from Bucks county in 1870. His daughter, Sylvia, lives on the old homestead.

Brice Pursell, Jr., son of Brice, Sr., had four sons and daughters. August-



us, Stacy and Howard are living, the latter being a practicing physician at Bristol. Horatio died in 1863.

Hugh Pursell, a son of Brice Pursell, has one daughter, Mary, who is still living.

Daniel Pursell, a son of Brice, has a son and daughter, David and Martha, both living. He was married three times, his last wife being Rachel Quinn who is a grand-daughter of Benjamin Williams, the original settler of the upper part of Nockamixon flats. We have now followed briefly and imperfectly we know the history of the three leading original settlers in the Nockamixon flats, and given an account of their descendants. We trust we may have given such a sketch that a future writer may have something of a guide to write a more complete history of these two families who have wielded such an influence in our local history.

We are indebted to T. Elwood Williams for valuable information and to Oliver Stover and William Williams for the free use of their deeds, patents, etc.

## GERMAN ANCESTORS.

Tracing the Family Names and  
# Character.

PAPER READ BY JOHN A. RUTH,

of Bethlehem, Before the Buckwampun Historical and Literary Association, at Riegelsville, June 19, 1897.

"In 1705," says Rupp, "a number of German Reformers residing between Wolfenbuttel and Halberstadt, fled to Neuweid, a town in Rhenish Prussia, where they remained for some time, and then went to Holland." In 1707 these people sailed for New York, but adverse winds drove the vessel out of its course, and they landed at Philadelphia. Determined to settle among the Dutch, they started on foot for numbering about 4000, set sail for New York, where they arrived in June 1710, after a voyage of six months, during which 1700 of them had died. These people were the first German Lutherans to land in America. For some time they camped in tents on what is now Governor's Island in New York harbor. In the fall of the year, 1400 of them were removed one hundred miles up the Hudson to Livingston Manor, where they settled on government lands. The treatment they received at the hands of the New York authorities was extremely harsh. To escape certain starvation, in the fall of 1712, one hundred and fifty families left the settlement and moved some sixty miles further into the wilderness, to Schoharie Valley, where they had purchased a tract of land from the New York, but weary of their wanderings, settled at German Valley, Morris county, N. J., and their descendants live there yet. In the year 1708 some 13,000

German exiles arrived at London in England. They were in destitute circumstances, and the English government gave them some assistance. On December 25, 1709, ten ship loads of these people, Mohawk Indians, with whom they were on friendly terms. The journey was a memorable one. Their few earthly possessions were loaded on rudely constructed sleds, and these they dragged by hand through a three foot snow over a country where roads were as yet unknown. Arriving at their destination after a three weeks' journey, they opened a new settlement. The first years at this place were years of extreme poverty and hardship. Located in the depth of the wilderness and surrounded by savage tribes of Indians, they were for a time free from the persecution of their enemies. Ten years had passed away, when to their dismay it was discovered that they had been outwitted by the New York land agents. The title to their property, which they held from the Indians, was not valid in a court of law, and they were once more homeless. In the spring of 1723, thirty-three families of these people started for Pennsylvania. With an Indian for a guide they traveled on foot across the New York wilderness to the headwaters of the Susquehanna. Here the women and children were placed on rafts, on which they floated down the stream, while the men followed on foot along the shore. In this way they passed by the present site of Wilkesbarre, and were doubtless the first white people that ever saw the Wyoming Valley. Continuing southward they reached the mouth of Swatara creek, some miles south of the present site of Harrisburg. Following this stream toward its source they were led into the Tulpehocken valley, and settled near Wommelsdorf, Berks county. Here they were joined by other families several years later. Taught by bitter experiences, they did not again neglect to take legal steps to secure titles to the homes they had once more redeemed from the wilderness. Among those who thus settled at Tulpehocken in 1723 and 1728 we find such familiar names as Lantz, Rieth, Schaffer, Fischer, Lesch, Anspach and Werner. In 1729 these people were joined by Conrad Weiser, who also came from Schoharie. When a boy he had lived among the Indians and had acquired their language. He was destined to a career of singular usefulness to our State as an Indian interpreter, and was in his day the most prominent German in Pennsylvania. Previous to the Tulpehocken settlement there were a number of Germans located in Lancaster county. Some of these were Mennonites, who had fled from Zurich, Bern and Schaffhausen, in Switzerland, on account of religious persecution. Among these people we find the names Funk, Landes, Schenck or Shank, Huber and Kauffman. From this time on Pennsylvania was the destination of every German immigrant. The just treatment they received from the authorities, and the alluring prospect of possessing a home brought hither many thousands of these "sons and daughters of the relics of the Reformation." From 1727 to 1775 more than three hundred shiploads of German immigrants landed at Philadelphia, from whence they made their way into the



surrounding country, and located tracts of land to which they soon acquired title. One of these streams of German settlers swept up the Perkiomen valley an eastward into Bucks county. Milford township was settled almost exclusively by these people. Many of them found homes in Springfield, Haycock, Nockamixon and other townships. Among the earliest Germans in our county we find the names of Jacob Klemmer, Jacob Sauder, Philip Geisinger, George Bachman and John Drissel, who were naturalized in 1729, and must have come to America prior to 1722. The Lehigh valley soon became a vast German settlement, with here and there a few other nationalities. Berks county was almost entirely settled by Germans. The tide of settlers swept from Philadelphia westward into Lancaster, and southward into York and across the line into Maryland. This State had some German settlers as early as 1681. In 1714 twelve families settled on the present site of Fredericktown. In 1743 there were German settlements in the Shenandoah valley and other parts of Virginia. It was the Germans who called Virginia Spottsylvania in honor of Gov. Spottswood, from whom they had received much kindness. About 1727 these people began to come to Pennsylvania in such large numbers that the authorities became alarmed, fearing the colony would become a German province. In 1755 the estimated population was 220,000, of whom 100,000 were "Germans and other foreign Protestants." Taking advantage of their simplicity, the Colonial authorities urged these people to settle upon the frontiers of the State. Here they were exposed to continual danger from the Indians. During the French and Indian War, from 1754 to 1763, hundred of them were massacred along the Blue Mountains. Among those who thus lost their lives in the counties of Northampton, Lehigh, Monroe and Carbon, we find the names of Huth, Hartman, Decker, Klein, Roth,

Bittenbender, Anders, Schaffer, Nitschman and Schweigart.

Pennsylvania has always received a very small amount of credit for the work her soldiers performed in the war for independence. If history makes any mention of the Pennsylvania troops, it is usually the fact that they became mutinous during the New Jersey campaign of 1780. The soldiers of New England, of Virginia and other States are eulogized for their bravery and devotion to the cause of liberty. History is silent as to Pennsylvania. While we would not detract from the fair fame of other States, we would claim for our own State the credit due to her for her patriotism and valor in the day of battle. From the very beginning of hostilities, Pennsylvania took an active part in raising men and money for the struggle. No class of our people were more loyal than the Germans. Tories were comparatively few among them. Almost to a man they stood by the government. The enrolling of the militia of the State began in 1775, and throughout the German districts there was intense activity. In Northampton county there were enrolled 2334 men, most of whom were Germans. The Easton company numbered 101, of whom 88 were Germans. Our neighboring township of Springfield enrolled 56 men, every

one of whom was German. The enrollment of Nockamixon contains 110 names, of whom at least 83 were Germans. Berks and Lancaster, Bucks and Montgomery, Philadelphia and York sent to Washington's army their quotas of men, hundreds of whom were sturdy sons of the German fatherland. In the battle of Long Island the Pennsylvania German troops suffered severely and to them belongs the credit of saving Washington's army from utter rout and capture. Col. Peter Kichline's Pennsylvania German Riflemen, from Northampton county, held a pass in the hills on the present site of Greenwood cemetery, Brooklyn. For six hours a large part of the British army made effort after effort to drive them from this position, but so deadly was their fire that the British were compelled to retreat, leaving dead on the field Gen. Grant, whose career was forever stopped by a bullet from one of Kichline's Riflemen. The enemy finally gained the rear of the American position, and Kichline's regiment was crushed between the British and Hessian forces. The Germans fought to the last. Seventy-one of the Easton company were either killed or wounded. Those who were captured by the enemy suffered unspeakable cruelties on board of the prison ships in New York harbor. Among these was Col. Kichline. Several months later occurred the gallant defense of Fort Mifflin under Col. Magaw. Among his troops were many Germans from Pennsylvania. Molly Pitcher, the heroine of Monmouth, was a Pennsylvania German. Her true name was Mary Ludwig. She followed her husband into the army, looking after his wants while in camp and serving the other men by supplying them with water, from this she was nick-named Molly Pitcher. When her husband fell in battle, she promptly took his place at his gun and for this service received a pension from the State. Other localities have claimed her as a native but Pennsylvania takes precedence. After a long and useful life she died and was buried at Carlisle. General Morgan's celebrated Virginia Riflemen might with better propriety have been named Pennsylvania Riflemen, for while 193 out of 421 men were from Pennsylvania, only 163 were from Virginia. Among these were some Pennsylvania Germans. One of these, Jost Burger, of Macungie, Lehigh county, took part in the siege of Boston, was present at the capture of Burgoyne at Saratoga, and in all saw six years of continuous service. Michael Bobst, of Lehigh county, served under General Stanwix in 1758-59, and was a major in the Revolution. Christopher Ludwick, another Pennsylvania German, was appointed by General Washington as chief commissary to the American army. It is related of him that after the battle of Germantown he heard that eight Hessians had been captured. He induced General Washington to place these prisoners in his hands, and then took them among the many Germans in the vicinity of Philadelphia and showed them how prosperous they were and how comfortably they lived, and charged them to tell these things to the Hessians still in the British service. The result was that large numbers of them deserted and settled in Pennsylvania. The few facts we have presented show very conclusively that our ancestors did their full share in the



struggle for liberty. They were present at every battle from the siege of Boston to the final culmination of the struggle at Yorktown.

In conclusion let us compare our ancestors with some of the other nationalities that peopled America. Almost as soon as the Germans began to arrive unkind things were said about them by their enemies, and great fears were expressed that they might become a troublesome element in the colony. These predictions were never realized. The Germans were a peaceable class of people. They did not wish to repeat the experience war had brought to them in the fatherland. They came to Pennsylvania for the purpose of finding a home and freedom of religious worship. A careful examination of the records shows that they were almost without exception young men, in the prime of life, who brought with them their families. While the English and other immigrants in many cases brought considerable property, the Germans came here very poor. Many did not have the money necessary to pay for their passage across the ocean. Upon arriving at Philadelphia they sold themselves and their families into a species of servitude, agreeing to work for a certain number of years for the party who paid their ship money. These people are known in history as "redemptioners," and from them are descended some of the best families of our State.

Our ancestors were expert agriculturists. They were admirably fitted for the work of clearing up a new country, and bringing it into a state suitable for successful cultivation. Wherever they settled they at once began to clear away the forests, and fertile and well cultivated fields soon took their place. The Germans depended only upon themselves and worked with a tireless energy. In a few years the counties in which they settled became the garden spots of the State. Large numbers of these people settled in Frederick county, Maryland, and in 1790 this was the largest wheat-producing county in the United States. It is worthy of note three of the five wealthiest agricultural counties in the Union are in eastern Pennsylvania and contain a large German population.

Much has been said about the zeal of the Puritan for education and religion. We are told that immediately after landing they began the erection of churches and school houses. These people are held up to us as examples in this matter, and well they may, but can we not say the same thing with equal propriety of our forefathers? Coming from the lands of Luther and Zwingli, they brought with them their German Bibles and catechisms, and as soon as a small number of them had located in some vicinity, congregations were organized and a log church erected, which usually also served as a school house for the time being. Early ministers of the Gospel were few, and the amount of work these men performed is almost incredible. Rev. John Casper Stoeber arrived in 1728 and labored among the Lutherans until 1799. His field extended from the Delaware to the Susquehanna, and from the

Blue mountains southward into Orange and Fairfax counties in Virginia. The first Lutheran congregation in the Shenandoah Valley was organized by this pioneer of the Gospel. Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, the patriarch of the Lutheran church in America, arrived in 1742. Rev. Michael Schlatter, the founder of the Reformed Church came from Switzerland in 1746. Rev. G. M. Weiss, another early Reformed pastor arrived in 1727. All these and a number of others were men of scholarly attainments, and did great and lasting good among the Germans of Pennsylvania and other States. The religion of our ancestors presents a strange contrast to that of Puritan New England. While that of the latter was always on the side of good morals, in many of its phases it was severe, and often very intolerant toward other sects. Among the Germans, Lutheran and Reformed, Mennonite and Moravian, as well as other sects, dwelt peaceably side by side, and usually several denominations held their religious services in the same church.

The ignorance of the Pennsylvania Germans is often a favorite theme of their enemies. Among this class of writers is Lieutenant James McMichael, a soldier of the Pennsylvania line during the Revolution. In July, 1777, he made a journey through the Lehigh Valley, and in his diary makes the following comment on the Germans of that section: "Along the road from Easton to Pottsgrove I was looked upon as a barbarian by the inhabitants, and they appeared to me like so many human beings scarcely endowed with the qualifications equal to that of the brute species. Repeatedly I talked Latin to them, when I found it was worse than English for them to understand. I therefore concluded that they were devoid of any qualification calculated to complete happiness, unless blended with others equally ignorant with themselves." If Lieutenant McMichael had taken time to stop at Bethlehem he would have found there a community equal in education and culture to any in America. The early Moravians had no superiors in this direction, and the religious and educational work they started in the wilderness of the Lehigh is bearing fruit to this day. The ignorance of our ancestors have so often been accused of was to a large extent their inability to speak English. The records show that a large percentage of those who landed at Philadelphia were able to sign their names to the qualification papers, and from this we may infer that they were able to read and write. German Bibles were printed in Pennsylvania forty years before the first English Bible was printed in our State.

Our ancestors were in every way the equal of the various nationalities that colonized this country, and their influence in our commonwealth has certainly been for good, although some writers doubt this. As early as 1738 Governor Thomas said: "This province has been for some years the asylum of the distressed Protestants of the Palatinate and other parts of Germany, and I believe it may truthfully be said that the present flourishing condition of it is in a great measure owing to the industry of these people." What Governor Thomas said



more than one hundred and fifty years ago is true to-day. Eminently conservative, as well as practical, the German people have given stability to the body politic of our State. Their patriotic devotion in 1776 turned the scale which determined that Pennsylvania should stand with Washington. More than 400,000 Germans served in the Union armies during the late war. When, therefore, in the future, some historian free from prejudice shall write our nation's history, then shall the Palatine "stand equal with the New Englander and the Virginian. In education, in the professions, in literature, theology and philosophy, the Pennsylvania German occupies a place conspicuous for excellence and worth. The true measure of the Pennsylvania German is the real measure of the State." "Pennsylvania, the land of the Quaker,

The home of the brave Palatine,  
The State that for honor and labor,  
Is the grandest that ever has been.  
God bless this beloved institution,  
Her sons and daughters ever true,  
Who always with loyal devotion.  
Stand firm by the Red, White and  
Blue."

## BOONE'S BIRTHPLACE.

### A Point of Disputed History Discussed.

#### HE WAS BORN IN NEW BRITAIN.

So Says Rev. Dr. D. K. Turner in a Sketch of the Great American Pioneer's Life—An Interesting Paper on the Subject so Frequently Discussed by Historians.

Dr. Elson, of Philadelphia, student and instructor of history, was asked during Institute week where Daniel Boone was born. Dr. Elson replied that he did not know, as several places claimed the honor of his nativity. Berks county was mentioned among others. It had long been believed, however, that Boone was born in this county, and Bucks should cherish the claim until something more authentic is known to contradict it.

A year or two ago a sketch of the great American pioneer, Indian fighter and explorer of the wilderness, was written by Rev. D. K. Turner, of Hartsville, and read before the Bucks County Historical Society. As the most stirring incidents in Boone's romantic career occurred in Kentucky, it has been assumed by many that he was a native of that State, which is not true, however, for, according to Dr. Turner, he was born in New Britain township, this county. As Dr. Turner is a gentleman of scholarly attainments, and has achieved a reputation for careful

research and accuracy of statement in his historical works, the following extracts from his paper on Boone are especially interesting, as they concern the mooted question of his birthplace.

Perhaps no native of Bucks county, says the Doctor, has been more celebrated than Daniel Boone. In his day and for a long period afterwards his fame was widely spread through our country. As a pioneer, hunter, explorer of regions untrodden by white men, and forerunner of civilization, he was surpassed by none, who more than a hundred years ago made their way to the pathless regions of the West. He was born in February, 1735, of English parentage, his grandfather, George Boone, having emigrated from Exeter, England, in 1717, with his wife and a large family of children. Daniel's father, [Squire Boone, Squire being a Christian name and not a title, in 1728 bought 140 acres of land in New Britain township, of Thomas Shute, of Philadelphia, on which property it is probable that the noted son came into life seven years later.

When he was about ten or twelve years old the family removed to Berks county, and located near Reading. That part of the country was then sparsely settled, large tracts were covered with unbroken forest, game was abundant, and in his boyhood he formed and strengthened the taste for hunting, which subsequently characterized him. After remaining there six or seven years his father, encouraged no doubt by Daniel, went to the still more primitive region of central North Carolina, and bought a property not far from the Yadkin river. Here was a field for the young man to cultivate his love of nature, to see her in her wildest aspect, and to roam over mountain, hill and valley, rifle in hand. While in this locality he married Rebecca Bryan, and pursued the occupation of a farmer several years; but in 1761 becoming restless, he joined a band of congenial spirits, crossed the Blue Ridge, and explored the head waters of the Tennessee river. A similar expedition followed three years later, along the sources of the Cumberland. These tours increased the desire, which had been awakened in his mind, to throw off the restraints of artificial civilization and find a home, where the luxurious usages of refined society would no longer incommode him, and where inequalities of wealth and station would be little regarded. In 1767 a man, who had been far into the western wilderness, returned and depicted in glowing colors the beauty of the region known as Kentucky, its grand forests, undisturbed hunting grounds and fertile soil.

Boone at once formed a resolution to visit it, and if the accounts were true, to cast his lot there. Two years elapsed, however, before he could so arrange his affairs as to make protracted absence from home possible. In 1769 a party of six hardy frontiersmen was formed, who placed themselves under his leadership and set out on the first of May for the almost unknown territory south of the Ohio. Their journey was toilsome and dangerous. The Indians, though nominally subjects to Great Britain, were hostile to white men, jealous of their encroachments.



and disposed to take their wives or force them back east of the mountains. The travellers moved along their lonely way under the leafy arch above them, with little food but that which their rifles furnished, five weeks. On the 7th of June they reached an elevated spot, from which they beheld a wide prospect of the valley of the Kentucky river and its tributaries. Here they determined to erect cabins, and from this as a central point hunt the buffalo and make extensive explorations. Several months passed away in these agreeable employments. When Winter came, having seen no Indians though continually on the watch for them, they separated into three parties, Boone and a single companion, whose name was Stewart, remaining together. On the 22d of December these two men were surprised by the savages, robbed of all the valuables they had, and held prisoners a week, when they contrived to elude the vigilance of their captors and escape by night.

In January Daniel's brother, Squire Boone, and another hunter from North Carolina arrived, bringing tidings of their families and welcome additions to their diminishing supplies of powder and lead. It was not long before they were again attacked by Indians; Stewart was shot and scalped; the man who came with Squire was lost in the woods; and the two brothers were left alone in the boundless forest. In the Spring Squire went home for supplies, and Daniel continued with no companion, without bread, salt or sugar, taking care of and adding to their furs, until the middle of Summer, when the solitary exile was cheered by his brother's return. During the following Autumn and Winter they explored other parts of Kentucky and found it most attractive and desirable for a permanent abode.

After giving a most interesting account of Boone's subsequent career, Dr. Turner refers to the fact that he died in 1822, in his 88th year, and his remains, with those of his wife were removed from Missouri and deposited with imposing ceremonies in the city of Frankfort, Ky., where a monument was erected in his memory in 1845.

Dr. Turner's paper closes with these words:—

Col. Boone was a noble man, of whom the county that gave him birth may well be proud. Many cities contended for the honor of the nativity of Homer, and we may be congratulated, that one so brave, energetic, persistent and patriotic commenced his career among us. His education was limited, but he possessed a strong mind and commanded a powerful influence wherever he went. The minute forms of a highly developed social and legal system were repugnant to him, yet he had few if any superiors in the virtues that adorn the head of a family or constitute a worthy citizen. As a husband and father he was beyond reproach. Subtle and cunning in warfare with savages he was too unsuspecting and guileless in his dealings with civilized men. Perfectly honest, he wronged no man, but often suffered himself to be wronged. To no one are the exploration and settlement of our country west of the Alleghanies and south of the Ohio more indebted than to the hero, Daniel Boone.

From, *Intelligencer*

*Doylestown Pa*

Date, *Jan'y 18. 1898*

## IN HONOR OF THE PAST.

### Bucks County Historical Society Annual Meeting.

Many New Members Elected—Reviews of Affairs by President and Treasurer—Progress in Historical Work and Efforts—Memorial Committee Makes Reports.

The Historical Society of Bucks County held its annual meeting in the Court Room on Tuesday. Shortly after 10.30 President Davis called the meeting to order and the minutes of the meetings held during the year were read.

The following persons were elected to membership:

Capt. Charles G. Cadwallader, Ethan Allen Weaver, Edward W. Magill, E. Lawrence Fell, Charles Benjamin Wilkinson, Philadelphia; Thomas Ross, John Yardley, Doylestown; E. W. Martindell, Hulmeville; John G. Vandegrift, Mrs. K. M. V. Collins, Eddington; Dr. Charles R. King, Andalusia; C. J. Walter, Newtown; Samuel S. Taylor, Lakewood, N. J.; James L. Branson, Langhorne; Miss Hannameel Candy Paxson, Aquetong; Edward Prizer, Rochester, New York; Charles R. Smith, Danborough; Mathias Hall, Wrightstown; Anna S. Atkinson, Buckingham, and H. S. Prentiss Nichols, Germantown.

The following named persons were appointed to nominate nine persons to serve as trustees of the society during 1898: T. Howard Atkinson, Mrs. Thomas C. Knowles and Mrs. William C. Newell.

The president's report was then read as follows:

DOYLESTOWN, Pa., Jan. 17, 1898.

To the Board of Directors:

I beg to present the following as my report of the operation of the Society for the past year:

When I look back to the meeting held in the library room in January, 1880, which some 10 or 12 gentlemen attended, but few ever met a second time, I must express my surprise at the Society's success. It began like with few active friends, and little of the "sinews of war" so necessary to every human enterprise. It was uphill work for several years, and at some of the meeting there were as few as



five or six persons, and sometimes it was hard to drum up members enough to make a quorum for the annual meeting. But the officers kept at it. Seeing they were in earnest, members gradually came in—but in single file, not whole battalions. Among the new comers were more or less honest workers, and contact with the Society awakened and developed a taste for history that "grows with what it feeds on." Now we boast, and have the right to speak in such terms, of a membership of 200, and the per cent. of active workers keeps pace.

Our objects of historic interest and other curios in the museum have grown in about the same ratio as members, until now our exhibits number not far from 2000. The Society's first catalogue, issued in October, 1897, embraces 761 specimens, and I may be allowed to say without great stretch of the imagination, that it includes almost everything "from a needle to an anchor." Every article mentioned in the catalogue, has with it more or less of its history, some given at very considerable length. Including the index it covers 87 pages. The cover is handsomely illustrated with half tone pictures of some of our exhibits. It may almost be called a work of art. Eight hundred copies were printed, and their circulation has greatly increased the interest in the society and its work.

The opening of a new department, composed of objects and utensils of domestic life, in the home and on the farm, has awakened a new interest in the work and scope of the society. At first the collection was called, for want of a better name, "Colonial Bucks County," but it soon outgrew that and the founder gave it the appropriate title of "Tools of the Nation Maker," and by this name is the catalogue called. This department numbers well nigh 1600 specimens. It is rich in interest, and very few people, who view it, are not reminded of something they were familiar with in their youth or riper years. The number is constantly increasing, and the interest taken in it is really wonderful. Its value is added to by the fact that it is the only collection of the kind known to exist in the country. In this connection, I feel it to be my official duty to say, and I do it with a high degree of satisfaction, that the society is mainly indebted to a single member, Mr. Mercer, for this unique collection. It was his conception and most of the specimens were collected by him.

The two field departments of the Society are increasing in interest, one especially, promising great possibilities; one of the marking of interesting spots with tablets or other memorial designations, the other the preservation of historic objects by means of the camera to hand down to those who come after us. The latter are preserved in a large album made for the purpose and now contain about 130 specimens—an increase of nearly 100 the past year. The special meeting in the court room last October, was one of the most successful yet held. It was largely attended and the interest increased by a lecture delivered by Henry C. Mercer, Esq., on the "Tools of the Nation Maker," a number of the most interesting specimens being made use of as object lessons. Asevidence of the growing interest in the Historical Society, I need but mention that at last Fall's an-

nual Teachers' Institute, four of our members were invited to address the meeting on subjects pertinent to the Society's object. They were given the first afternoon and what they said produced a favorable impression on the minds of the teachers, pupils and others present.

I cannot conclude my report without speaking of another matter near the Society's heart—the necessity of having larger and better accommodations for the work we have in hand. The single room the Society now occupies, by the courtesy of the Board of Commissioners, now overflows with our rare specimens. The interest in the society increase almost daily, but unless we have an increase of space we shall soon have to decline contributions. A few weeks ago a plan, based on a trust, was formulated to raise the sum of \$10,000, to erect a plant of our own; and although but slight effort has been made, one-fourth of the sum has already been pledged. With this start, we hope to accomplish the object in view, but to do so, every friend of the society should put his or her shoulder to the wheel. Having faith in the old adage, "Many mickles make a muckle," every contributions, however small, will add to the fund, and even, the "Widow's Mite," for which there is the highest authority, as to its efficacy, will be thankfully received. The Bucks County Historical Society has become a recognized County Institution, and every interest should be represented in the historical contribution box. The public schools of the county, especially should take an interest in building a plant for the Society. After all that's said and done, it is but an additional, educator and they and it are aiming to reach the same object by different roads, educating the minds of the sons and daughters of old Bucks. If each school were to contribute but 10

cents a week, it would raise almost \$2000 in a single year. Would any one feel such contribution? One of the Bensalem schools raised \$16 in a few weeks for the purpose. There ought not to be any difficulty in raising the sum needed in old Bucks, the fifth richest county in the United States. Respectfully Submitted.

W. W. H. DAVIS, President.

At the conclusion of this review of the Society's situation the treasurer's report was read as follows:

To the Bucks County Historical Society:

I submit herewith my report for the year past:

ALFRED PACCHALL, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE SOCIETY,

DR.

Balance on hand January 19 1897	
Building fund.....	\$ 18 93
General fund.....	287 32
Received from membership fees.....	93 00
Received from donations.....	105 00
Received for building fund.....	21 00—\$325 30

CR.

John R. Bigell, janitor, 1896.....	\$ 4 00
Geo. W. Shaw & Co., tablet at Keith house, Washington's Headquarters.....	35 40
Louis Taws, album for photographs.....	5 95
INTELLIGENCER bill of printing and postage.....	11 69
Express bills.....	1 57
J. C. Lambrite, blank books.....	4 25
Henry Bonnard Bronze Co., tablet at Hartsville, Washington's Headquarters.....	50 00
L. D. Treffinger, material and work.....	18 47
Barclay, sleigh.....	3 00
Duffield and Bilger bills, Parkland meeting.....	16 65
Postage bills—catalogues, \$3 24; general \$7 70.....	15 94



INTELLIGENCER bill—catalogues, \$20;	
invitations, envelopes, etc., \$30.75.....	250 75
Mercer's bill, record book.....	85
Balance due the society, general fund	80
" " " building "	39 98—\$525 30

Dated Doylestown, Pa., January 15th,  
1898, and respectfully submitted.

ALFRED PASCHALL, Treasurer.

Robert Eastburn and Asher Mattison were appointed a committee to audit the accounts.

The committee on marking the Tammany grave reported as follows:

DOYLESTOWN, Pa., Jan. 17, 1898.

*To the Bucks County Historical Society:*

The committee appointed to consider and make suggestion on marking the site of the reputed burial place of the Indian Chief Tamenend, respectfully report:

The committee believes that an aged Indian of prominent position was buried at the alleged site of Tammany's grave, about the year 1750, and that the buried Indian was believed by the early settlers of Bucks county to have been Tammany; (Tamenend;)

That the Tamenend of Lenape history, head chief until 1718, and former owner of the site in question, together with all the lands between Neshaminy and Pennypack creeks (sold by him to the whites in 1697), must have been reasonably well known to the pioneers of New Britain, who, about 53 years after he sold the grave site to white men, themselves declare that they buried him at the spot;

That Tamenend, notwithstanding his disappearance from public notice, and deposition from place, in 1718, may have lived until 1750; and that the latter supposition is in accord with the wide-spread tradition of his great age;

That non-mention of Tamenend by Moravian missionaries through the early half of the 18th century, cited by Sherman Day, is not decisive evidence that he died before 1750.

For these reasons the committee favors marking the site with a cairn and obelisk of unhewn stones, inscribed with the following words:

To the memory of the celebrated Lenape chieftain Tamenend, once owner of this and all land between Neshaminy and Pennypack creeks, these stones are placed at this spot, near which an aged Indian called Tammany, by the pioneers of Bucks county, was buried by white men about the year 1750. B. C. H. S.

On behalf of the committee,

HENRY C. MERCER, Chairman.

The report was adopted, the committee discharged and the report referred to the board of trustees.

The committee on the Fitch memorial presented the following report:

DOYLESTOWN, PA., Jan. 12, 1898

To the President and Directors of the  
Bucks County Historical Society,

GENTLEMEN: The undersigned committee was appointed to report on the matter of the erection of a suitable memorial, to mark the spot where John Fitch, inventor of the steamboat, made the first trial of his model. This was on Arthur Watt's dam, Southampton township, at Davisville, about 1786-87 in the presence of several neighbors: James Scout, Abraham Sutphin, Anthony Scout, John McDowell and his son Abraham, William Vansant and Charles Garrison. Young McDowell was about six year old.

The party was joined at the dam by Arthur Watts, the owner and his son William.

February 9, 1858 I wrote down from Abraham McDowell's lips, an account of the trial as he saw and remembered it, which he related with great minuteness. At the time Fifth boarded with the McDowell family and made the model in a log shop on the premises, in which McDowell's father carried on weaving. They lived over the Southampton line in Warminster and the home is still standing. Nathaniel Boileau, then a young man, living with his father on the Montgomery county line, 300 yards away, made some parts of the machinery. The McDowell boy carried them back and forth. All the circumstances were of a character that served to impress themselves on his mind. I was born within rifle shot of the McDowells and frequently heard Abraham talk about it, and near the Watt's dam.

I have not the least doubt of the facts transpiring as related to me. The mill, the dam was to supply with water, was never built, owing to a death in the family, and its site is now a beautiful meadow, with the stream running through it, the same as before the dam was built. It would, I think, be highly proper to mark the dam, and I take pleasure in recommending it. It would perpetuate an event of no mean historic interest and importance.

W. W. H. DAVIS,  
Committee.

The committee was continued to make further investigation.

The committee on revision of by-laws reported that their work had not been accomplished and asked to be continued.

The committee on recognition of Bucks county in the great seal of Pennsylvania was continued.

The committee on picturesque history made the following report.

DOYLESTOWN, PA., Jan 17, 1898.

*To the Bucks County Historical Society:*

The committee on picturesque history begs leave to report that the work entrusted to it has been prosecuted during the past year and the collection of pictures has been increased about three-fold.

The plan of work and classification of pictures have been continued as mentioned in the last report.

A year since there were about forty pictures in the collection. There are now——. The Society's album, herewith presented, shows the character as well as the extent of the work accomplished.

The collection of pictures continues to be a feature of much popular interest at the Society's meetings. The fact that it elicits warm commendation from many visitors, as a valuable adjunct to historical interest and study, is a most encouraging and substantial endorsement of this phase of work. The further fact that efforts have been made to secure duplicates of several of the Society's pictures, which have not, however, been permitted to go into other hands, is also disinterested evidence of outside appreciation and endorsement of this collection.

The committee again notes the abundance, value and interest of material within Bucks county, which is proper and



desirable for pictorial preservation. Besides the ancient and historical buildings and landmarks of the county, the collection of Tools of the Nation Maker has opened up a new field, which gives promise of extensive, picturesque and valuable returns.

There has been some expense connected with the work of the committee—thus far borne by the individual members. To partially meet this outlay and cover the cost of materials, it has been determined to ask the Society to adopt and pay a nominal price of ten cents (10c) for each platinotype picture mounted. There are now — pictures in the album, which would make the bill for pictures to date \$——. The committee has incurred no other obligations.

Respectfully submitted,

J. P. HUTCHINSON, Chairman.

The committee at Washington memorial at Hartsville verbally reported completion of their work and bills paid, as per the treasurer's report. The report was accepted and the committee discharged.

A communication from Samuel F. Gwinner, relative to the crossing of Washington's army at Taylorsville, 1776-7, was read by the secretary, after which the meeting adjourned until 2 o'clock.

The afternoon session of the Historical Society opened at two o'clock, in the Court Room, with a largely increased audience. The guests and members from a distance had been entertained at lunch, by the local lady members of the society and all were in fine humor to be entertained and enjoy the literary feast of the day.

The secretary presented the following list of names, all of the persons being thereupon elected to membership: Mrs. Sarah DuBois Mowry, Chester; Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Prentiss Nichols, Germantown; Robert Pitfield Brown, Philadelphia; Edward H. Magill, Swarthmore; Richard R. Paxson, Eliza H. Ruckman, John H. Ruckman, Labaska; Mary Atkinson Watson, Doylestown; Stacy B. Bray, Lydia B. W. VanHorn, Jervas Ely, Lambertville; Eleanor Foulke, Quakertown; Elizabeth M. Fell, Emily C. Fell, Susan W. Atkinson, Holicong.

The committee on nomination of trustees, T. Howard Atkinson, Mrs. Thomas C. Knowles and Mrs. William C. Newell, reported the names below, who were elected by acclamation as the board for 1898: Gen. W. W. H. Davis, Rev. D. K. Turner, John S. Williams, Alfred Paschall, Thomas C. Knowles, Henry C. Mercer, Mrs. Richard Watson, Mrs. Anna J. Williams, Mrs. Harman Yerkes.

The auditors, Robert Eastburn and Asher Mattison, made a written report finding the accounts correct with a balance due the society of \$67.40 in the general fund and \$39.98 in the building fund.

At the conclusion of the transaction of above business, Chairman Davis introduced Miss Mattie Reeder, of Solebury, who read the following paper, entitled

#### SOME FORGOTTEN TREASURES.

There is an instinct that seems to be

born with all classes to collect and hoard treasures. It is one of the first traits to appear in a child, and the relics of a bygone youth are the dearest possessions of the old. These trifles, symbols of an almost forgotten past, meet us everywhere. They are as various in kinds as the characters that once cherished them. These—the treasures of the dead—should be touched with reverent fingers.

My first introduction to the study of history began with the Revolutionary War. I remember rushing home from school, on fire with patriotism, and eagerly questioning all the grown folks for stories, if possible of a personal nature, concerning those stirring times. I was seriously annoyed at the pacific principles of Friends, which prevented them from taking part in the conflict. I did so want one ancestor to have carried a musket through the war for Independence. But contentment had to be found in smaller things. In part of the stone wall of an old shed was firmly lodged an iron shell, a mute witness of Revolutionary times. Whether it was hurled from the cannon of a flying foe or from the patriots, guns is uncertain. Safe in the old stone wall it rested many years. One spring the empty shell was espied by the bright eyes of a little wren, hunting a home. "What a nice house that would be," twittered she, and she called her husband. He approved the site and this young couple set up housekeeping in the missile of war. Many summers the wrens and their descendants made the hollow shell their home. At last the wall was torn down, then the birds, indignant at this vandalism, sought another home. And by gray haired men, then school boys, the wren's nest is still remembered. The old shell had a checkered existence after that. It was so heavy no one knew just what to do with it. It was rolled from one dark, cob-webbed corner to another until it was rescued by one kind friend and taken to end its days in the peaceful room of the Historical Society.

The only other relic of those times our house afforded was a half dozen silver teaspoons, part of the outset of a bride of 1777. They must have always had the greatest care. The engraving on the handle is in perfect preservation and the pea-fowl on the back of the bowl is easily seen on every spoon. They are little larger than the after dinner coffee spoon and you can imagine my pride and delight at being permitted to use them at the tea table.

In grandfather's house there stood a tall chest of drawers. The linen, rose leaf scented, the shawls, the beautifully quilted silk petticoats, found in the lower drawers, were at one time of little interest. But those top drawers! Out of reach of rummaging childish fingers, they ever seemed a realm of mystery. They were up so high that even a chair and a stool on it brought forth only a tumble and a bump. And a magic world they proved when at length curiosity was gratified. Oh, the wonderful things made in cross-stitch, the long silk mitts, the beaded purses, each had its own story and to the telling a childish listener never wearied. There was one long curl of hair and the half of a silver clasp upon which letters were engraved. The lock of hair was the exact color of my own and when I learned it had adorned the head of a girl who, almost one hundred years



ago had lived and played, where I lived and played, it fascinated me. The curl, the trinket, a book in which her name was written, were all that was left to tell the story of "Mary." I thought and wondered about her so much that at last she grew to be almost real. Perhaps it was because there was no one to play with that from the past I created this shadow friend. In imagined loyalty to her I actually struggled through the book in which her name was written, old fashioned s's included. Those old long s's always made it seem as if the author were lisping. The title of the book was almost as long as itself. It was "Some Account of the Life and Death of John, Earl of Rochester, Who Died July 26, 1680, Written by His Own Dictation on His Death Bed by Gilbert Burnett." The book was not cheerful.

The missing half of the clasp furnished material for an alluring romance. It must surely be part of a love token. And its mate—where was it now? This piece had been so carefully cherished that the suggestion its fellow was simply lost, was with scorn rejected. And why should my theory not be right? It was known "Mary" had begun to spin the linen for her outset. A few pieces she had completed. But as she entered the portals of womanhood, Death claimed her. And so I treasure this half of the old-time trinket and hope some day to find its fellow and learn the rest of the unfinished story of this long-forgotten "Mary."

In a box of old letters was found a piece of yellowed paper. The penmanship, faded but still beautiful, attracted attention. Indeed, writing with a pen seems fast becoming a lost art when the wretched scribbling of to-day is compared with the exquisite work left by our forefathers.

On the paper was the copy of an old prophesy. No doubt there are many such still existing, found between the leaves of old Bibles, in the secret drawer of old secretaries or among long written letters as this one was found. Whatever the inspiration may have been the wording was simple but commanding. In 1803 there was one Jos. Hoag at work in his fields when he "observed a mist dim the brightness of the sun." As he pondered on this phenomena his "mind was struck into solemn silence," and a voice from heaven spoke to him. The division of the Society of Friends was foretold. The Civil War and the freeing of the slaves. Further the voice told him, "Then a monarchical power will arise and take the government of the States, establishing a National religion and make the people tributary to support its expenses." Property would be taken for this purpose, from the rightful owners to a large amount. Almost chaos reigned. But at the end the voice promised comfort. "This power shall not always stand, but with it I shall chastise my children until they return to the faithfulness of their forefathers. For, its iniquities thou seest what is coming in thy native land." Joseph Hoag tells us that this vision remained with him many days. He says "I had no idea of writing it until it came to be a burden, that for my own relief I have written it." When the vision was made known it created great excitement coming as it did from an eminent minister of the Society of Friends. At the time of the division among Friends and

in the dark days of the Civil War, copies of the old prophesy were brought to light and discussed by many serious minded people. In the peaceful years that have followed it has been forgotten. No matter what its value as a prophesy may be, a thing that so deeply stirred the hearts of our forefathers, deserves at least a remembrance by their descendants.

It is among these almost forgotten treasures, that the only opportunity comes to me to add my little to the yet unwritten past.

At the close of Miss Reeder's paper, which met with cordial approval, Chairman Davis introduced Dr. Edward H. Magill, of Swarthmore, who read a most valuable and interesting paper on "The Underground Railroad in Bucks County and its Managers." Dr. Magill spoke from the standpoint of personal association and contract with the individuals whose actions he discussed, and his vivid portrayal of the times that tried men's manliness and courage, when the best citizens defied the worst laws which disgraced our statute books, were an inspiration to the older part of the audience and a revelation to those younger. Dr. Magill's paper is in the possession of the INTELLIGENCER and will be presented to our readers complete very soon.

The Chair next introduced Edward Prizer, a loyal son of Bucks county and well known to INTELLIGENCER readers, now of Rochester, New York, who had come a long distance to be with old friends and associations. Mr. Prizer's paper was "The Individual in Human Progress." It discussed the status of the individual—inferior and discouraging in the past, but predicted that the future would witness a decided change. The individual will be a force hereafter, and will make himself felt and must be reckoned with. Mr. Prizer's paper is with the INTELLIGENCER and our readers will have the benefit of it.

After announcing that the next summer gathering of the Historical Society will be held at Langhorne, at the regular time in August, President Davis declared the meeting adjourned.

From, *Intelligencer*

*Doylestown Pa*

Date, *July 28<sup>th</sup> 1898*

## WHEN MEN WERE SOLD.

The Underground Railroad  
in Bucks County.

The Famous Route from Slavery to Freedom, as Described Before the Bucks



County Historical Society, by Dr. Edward  
H. Magill, of Swarthmore, Jan. 18, '98.

It is always a source of great pleasure to me to return to my native county of Bucks, and it is an especial pleasure to-day to meet this Historical Society of our county, which is so laudably engaged in collecting, and placing in permanent form, the various means of preserving the memories of the past. And the subject which you have given me is one which has special attractions, presenting as it does the opportunity to do some justice to those brave and loyal men and women of the earlier day, whose loyalty consisted, not in obeying wicked laws of human enactment, but in unswerving fealty to what they so appropriately called the Higher Law, the law of God, written indelibly in the human heart. It was obedience to this law that enabled those brave fathers and mothers of ours to prevent this fair country from becoming a free hunting ground for the Southern task-master pursuing his fleeing fugitive, and to open through our county a comparatively free passage to that land of freedom which, by the unerring guidance of the North Star, and long and lonely midnight travel, they sought in the good Queen's dominions, and which they failed to find under the broad ægis of our National flag, the Stars and Stripes. My subject, then, may be announced as: "Some Reminiscences of the Underground Railroad in Bucks County; and Its Managers."

It is difficult for the present generation of young people to imagine the necessity for the existence, in this free country, of such an organization as the Underground Railroad. The institution of American Slavery, by which more than three million human beings were held in the most abject servitude, and regarded as chattels, to be bought and sold, ruthlessly separated by the will of the master, regardless of family ties, and all of the horrors attendant upon the public auction sales of men, women and children to the highest bidder, and their being driven daily to their labor in the fields by ruthless and heartless task-masters, have now happily become a thing of the past, requiring a strong effort of the imagination even to conceive.

It was early in the present century that the comparatively small number of slaves held in the Northern States were gradually set free and a very distinct line between the free and the slave States became fully established. This line, (called Mason and Dixon's line, on the southern border of our State of Pennsylvania), separating, as it did, so widely varying views and interests, was early felt, by the most far-seeing of our statesmen to be a serious menace to the well-being of the Republic, if indeed it did not actually threaten its destruction at no very distant day. As a result of this distinct division of interests, and consequent difference of views upon so important a question as that of human slavery, hostile feelings were constantly on the increase between the North and South during the first quarter of the present century. These were especially manifested in our Na-

tional councils at Washington and a growing tendency was observed to form, regardless of political differences, a pro-slavery and an anti-slavery party. The values of property in slaves became more and more precarious along the northern border of the Slave States, owing to their facilities to escape into a free territory in the North and this escape began to be more and more promoted by the spread of the anti-slavery sentiment in the Northern States. As a consequence the practice became more common for the planters of the border States to sell to the far off cotton plantations of the Gulf States, those slaves who were most restless under the yoke, and especially those who attempted to gain their liberty by flight, aided by friends in the North.

Before the end of the first decade of the present century the hegira of the Southern slaves toward the promised land of Canada had fairly set in. It will be observed that this land of promise was not reached until they had passed the limits of this boasted land of liberty, and arrived in a territory governed by an English king. Thus, when the hunted fugitives started on their Northern journey, following the light of the North Star by night and hiding during the day in the barns, deep woods, under hay stacks, corn shocks or any other available place of concealment which they found upon their route, they but little appreciated the long and weary way before them. Indeed, many were grievously disappointed on finding that, on reaching a Free State, they were still within easy reach of their pursuing masters, who sought them eagerly to increase their stock of slaves for the Southern market. The fact that being sold to the far South was the almost certain penalty of an attempt to secure their freedom greatly increased their fear of recapture, and made to every colored family in the border Free States the name of kidnapper a terror indeed. I say to every colored family, for even free colored persons, who had never been in slavery, not infrequently were seized as fugitives and hurried away, sometimes without even the form of a trial, to the Southern market.

This Northward migration toward the promised land of freedom was naturally greatest in the State of Pennsylvania, the States further west being comparatively unsettled at this early period; and in Pennsylvania perhaps no counties were traversed by so large a number of fugitives as those of York, Adams, Chester and Lancaster. These counties, especially the two latter, were largely settled by Friends, who were generally known to be in sympathy with the escaping slaves. I may here remark that Dr. Hiram Corson, in his paper before the Montgomery County Historical Society a few years since, stated that nearly all of those in that county who were accounted as abolitionists were members of the religious society of Friends. Of course, even there there were notable exceptions, prominent among whom for many years was the Rev. Samuel Aaron, of Norristown. These counties of Chester and Lancaster were also far enough from the border to afford a temporary place of safety after passing the line of the Slave States. In the little town of Columbia, incorporated a few years later, there was, at the time of which I speak, near the year 1810, considerable settlement of colored people.



and to these a number of escaping fugitives became united. But the danger of pursuit and of restoration to bondage constantly increased. It was soon after this period that the thought was conceived of forming a line of stations from Columbia toward the north, the northeast and the northwest, these stations to be the homes of well-known friends of the slave, and about 10 miles apart, making it a comfortable night's journey on foot from one to another. These three northerly routes were decided upon that the fugitives should not travel in so large numbers together as to increase the danger of discovery. Thus after passing Columbia, all large groups being divided there by the careful friends of the slave having charge of the route, and going forward by night and being carefully concealed by day by the chosen friends in charge of the stations on the route, the danger of discovery and arrest was very much diminished.

It is said that the baffled and disappointed masters, on reaching Columbia, instead of securing their fugitives there, as they had done on various occasions in previous years, now found that after following them thus far all trace of them suddenly disappeared and they angrily declared that there must be an underground railroad somewhere in the neighborhood. This is said to be the origin of this expression which has since become so familiar. This method of transporting the escaping slaves through the Free States of the North, a method which extended later to our own and other counties, and which was kept up even after the keepers of the underground stations assumed so much greater risk after the passage, in 1850, of the infamous bill known as the Fugitive Slave Law, was originated, and first carried into effect by that staunch and faithful friend of the oppressed, William Wright, of Columbia.

As the principal line of escape through Pennsylvania was by way of York, Adams, Lancaster and Chester counties, the underground line through Bucks county was less used, and consequently less perfectly organized. Still many slaves came through the county, reaching it through the Northeastern Chester county line, by way of Norristown, or coming up through Philadelphia. Farmers on their way home from market frequently brought them up, sent on by the Abolitionists of Philadelphia, and these very frequently found homes and occupation with the Bucks county farmers, some of them remaining for several years. At the home of my father, Jonathan P. Magill, of Solebury, many were thus received, beginning as far back as my memory extends. Many stories of their experiences as slaves, and their efforts to escape, were told my brother Watson and myself by our hired colored men, which stories are more or less distinct in my memory. The general impression left on my mind by these in my early boyhood was the sad and helpless condition of the life of the slave; the inexpressible terrors which these affectionate creatures experienced from their fear of separation from their families; their bravery in setting out unaided and alone to seek a land of liberty by hundreds of miles of night travel, guided only by the North Star, and incurring the constant risk of recapture and being sold to far off southern market; and the great

cruelty and inhumanity of a system which could thus deprive human beings of their inalienable right to life and liberty.

I have spoken of the constant increase of the feeling of opposition to slavery in the Northern States through the first quarter of the present century. This feeling intensified as the years passed on, and the consequent hostility between the North and the South became more and more pronounced. But while the South was practically united in support of their cherished institution of slavery, the North did not present the same undivided front in opposition to it. Many at the North, having family or business connections with the South, were lukewarm, or even sided with the slave power, in its constantly increasing demands. It was at this time that the opposition to slavery first took organic form by the establishing of the American Anti-Slavery Society, about 1832. It was on the 1st of January, 1831, that William Lloyd Garrison began in Boston the publication of the *Liberator*, the leading paper throughout the long struggle of more than thirty years, advocating the doctrine that "immediate and unconditional abolition of slavery was the right of the slave and the duty of the master." He had promulgated this doctrine two years before in the paper published by him in connection with Benjamin Lundy in the city of Baltimore, called *The Genius of Universal Emancipation*, and for his severe denunciation of slavery had been fined and imprisoned in Baltimore several months. His motto now adopted in the *Liberator* of "No Union With Slaveholders," aroused still more the hostility of the South, and through sympathy with the South, and the influence of Southern trade, the Garrisonian Abolitionists were kept in a small minority for a number of years. But the little band stood firm, and in their "Declaration of Principles," drawn up by Garrison, and signed by 50 earnest and devoted men, in advance of their age, they declared: "We may be defeated, but our principles never." The only Bucks county name found in this list of early signers is that of Robert Purvis, and he is the only one among them who is still living. In a recent conversation with me he expressed his great satisfaction that, in that early day, women were conspicuous in their advocacy of the cause of the slave, and were present and gave their counsels when the Declaration of Principles was adopted. That the equality of woman was not then acknowledged as it is to-day is evident from the fact that no woman's name appears upon the list of signers of that first Declaration. When they were about to sign the paper, knowing that it would destroy their business if engaged in Southern trade, a friend, whose name I know, but forbear to mention, said to James Mott, "Remember, thou art in business with the South, and that it may ruin thy trade to sign it." Whereupon Lucretia Mott, sitting by, promptly said: "Put down thy name, James." Such was the spirit that prompted the Abolitionists of that early day.

From the first appearance of Garrison's *Liberator* it was ever a welcome weekly visitor at my father's house. Although then but six years of age I well remember the thrill with which we heard our



read in our little sitting room that memorable first editorial of the great anti-Slavery leader, closing with the words: "These are the principles by which I shall be guided; I will not retract a single inch, and I will be heard." I may add here that besides the *Liberator*, the other principal anti-slavery papers, the *Pennsylvania Freeman* and the *National Anti-Slavery Standard* were regularly received at my father's house.

Of the comparatively small band who entered thus early on the anti-slavery work in Bucks county, there were none who were not actively interested from the beginning in the operation of the under-ground railroad. Indeed for membership in that organization, of which our own Robert Purvis was president for so many years, and whose only dividend received by the shareholders was unpopularity among their fellow-men, there were no hard and fast rules of admission, but all were gladly welcomed, without formal enrolment, who were able and willing to lend a hand. I should say here that there were some most efficient workers among them, led by kindly motives of humanity, and sympathy for the oppressed and down-trodden race, who did not consider themselves Garrisonian Abolitionists, being too cautious and conservative to rally under the revolutionary banner of "No union with slave-holders." Some of these were afterward active in the Liberty, and the Free Soil party.

So far as I have been able to ascertain the routes of Northern travel for the slaves were less clearly marked through Bucks than they were through Chester and Lancaster counties. The ten mile limit for the distance between the stations was also far less frequently observed. The escaping fugitives usually entered the county from the south, by way of Philadelphia, but many came by the northeast Chester county route already referred to, by way of Norristown. In naming families who were especially interested in this humane but unlawful (?) work of aiding slaves through Bucks county, I shall doubtless omit some who were equally interested with those named, and who performed with them an equally important part of the work, and incurred with them an equal risk in carrying out their principles, in direct violation of what they justly regarded as iniquitous laws. Of course I must name those with whose work I have myself been most familiar.

In the lower part of the county among those who were ever ready to receive with sympathy these unhappy fugitives, to care for them, and give or obtain for them employment so long as they dared to stop on their Northern flight, and then with the proper credentials to their friends further North, to help them on their way either, by taking them in their own conveyances, sometimes covered over or disguised to avoid detection in case of pursuit and search, or by sending them on by trusted friends travelling in that direction, or sometimes when it seemed safe to do so, paying their fares and sending them by stage (Bucks county being then without railroads);—I may mention the names of Robert Purvis, Barclay Ivins, the Pearces, the Swains, the Beans, the Lintons, the Schofields, the Bucks,

mans, the Janneys, the Rainings, Jonathan Palmer, William Lloyd, William Burgess, Jolly Longshore.

After a journey northward of from ten to twenty miles the fugitives were received and kindly cared for until ready to go further north, by the Atkinsons, the Browns, the Tregos, the Blackfans, the Smiths, the Simpsons, the Paxsons, John E. Kenderdine, Jonathan P. Magill, Jacob Heston, William H. Johnson, Joseph Fell and Edward Williams.

Having but slight acquaintance with friends of the slave in the northern end of the county I can only say that the friends of the middle section generally forwarded fugitives to Richard Moore, of Quakertown, or sometimes, more directly further on by stage or private conveyance to the Vails or to Jacob Singmaster, of Stroudsburg. On reaching these Northern points, having put so many miles of weary travel between them and their masters in the South, their feeling of security generally increased, and still more was this the case on reaching Montrose or Friendsville, in Susquehanna county, where, under the kind care of Israel Post, in Montrose, or Caleb Carmalt, in Friendsville, and other friends to aid them, they had reached ground on which, in those days of difficult travel, the slave holder but rarely ventured in search of his slaves. A comparatively short journey from these places brought them to the State of New York.

The home of our friend Richard Moore, in Quakertown, being the last important station of the Underground Railroad in our county and being the point where the northeastern Chester county line and most of Bucks county lines converged, I have felt that it would be a matter of especial interest to know all that I could learn of this station from the best authority. To this end I have been twice granted an interview by Alfred Moore, the grandson of Richard Moore, at his office in Philadelphia. I learn from him that Richard Moore, while not ready to unite with the early abolitionists in their revolutionary motto: "No Union with Slaveholders," still felt prompted by kind sympathy many years ago to aid on their way the escaping fugitives. His home soon became known to the friends further South as a place where all fugitives forwarded would receive kindly care and needed assistance in their continued flight. Thence they soon began to come directed to this home in very considerable numbers. Although slaveholders rarely proceeded so far as this in pursuit of their slaves, they occasionally did so, and more than once the master has presented himself at the front door of Richard Moore a few moments after the object of his search, being forewarned of his approach, had escaped by a back door to a safe place of concealment in the rear. Many of the fugitives on reaching Quakertown, feeling comparative safe, were willing to hire out there, and Richard Moore was ever ready to give them work himself or find them employment among his friends and neighbors. Still there were many of the slaves whose terror was so great that they were anxious to be passed on as soon as possible to a real land of freedom in Canada. These were, of course, sent on at once and generally with letters to friends in Montrose or Friendsville. Much of the route between



Quakertown and these farther stations, up the valley of the Lehigh and the Susquehanna, was through a then unsettled country where the probabilities of discovery and arrest were but slight. But here, as elsewhere, most of their traveling was done at night, they lying safely concealed in some dark ravine or impenetrable morass or brushwood during the day. The cruel treatment of these poor creatures at home may be well conceived on considering the terror of many of them by day and by night, even in the depths of these interminable forests, with hundreds of miles of travel between them and their masters whom they so greatly feared.

One of the slaves who reached this safe station at Quakertown about the year 1850, just about the time of the passage of the Fugitive Slave Law, seemed especially brave, being destitute of fear even in that most trying time. He was a slave of Abraham Shriner, of Pipe Creek, Maryland, and was known as Bill Budd at home, but on running away from bondage assumed the name of Henry Franklin, it being naturally a very common practice with runaway slaves to take an assumed name. This man did not care to be sent to Canada, and was employed as a carter by Richard Moore for several years. During this time he was much engaged in carting coal from the Lehigh river, there being then no railroad to Quakertown. There were often slaves to be sent northward, and he would load his wagon with them in the evening, cover them well with straw, and take them up during the night, giving them so much of a start on the lonely road toward Friendsville, and return with a load of coal the next day. Alfred Moore is quite confident that one of the slaves thus carried north by Henry Franklin was Parker, the principal hero in the *Christiana* tragedy. This brave Franklin, who was thus instrumental in aiding so many slaves to secure their freedom, afterwards came to Philadelphia where he was for a number of years janitor in the Academy of Fine Arts, and lived in Philadelphia until his death. Richard Moore had sent on fugitives for several years, and when the number became quite large he began to keep a regular record, and after that time, until the war, made escape from slavery unnecessary, he recorded the names of about six hundred. Many of these, however, did not come through the lower end of Bucks county, but reached his station by way of Norristown and the northeastern Chester county line.

Thus far (except the case of Bill Budd, alias Henry Franklin), I have spoken rather on the general aspect of the question under consideration. I now proceed to give, with some detail, a few individual cases of the escape of slaves through our county, and their recapture in it, which details I have endeavored to confirm by a careful personal investigation.

Although the case of Big Ben has been quite fully stated in the public press, as it occurred more than half a century ago, it has been suggested to me that the young people of this generation know little or nothing about it and that I had better include at least a brief outline of it in these reminiscences.

It was about 65 years ago that a slave of one, William Anderson, near Little

York, Maryland, named Benjamin Jones (called Big Ben from his immense size, measuring according to his own and others' testimony 6 feet 10½ inches in stature), with four other slaves, fearing that they were about to be sold to the Southern market, started on a Northern journey by night toward a land of freedom. After many risks and hardships, being frequently aided by kind friends of the Underground Railroad by the way, they succeeded in reaching Buckingham, in this county, where some of them found employment. Big Ben worked for Jonathan Fell, father of Joshua Fell, of Mechanicsville; Thomas Bye, William Stavelly and others for about eleven years. He was one day chopping in the woods near Forestville, when his former master, William Anderson, with four other men, one of them at least a noted slave catcher of that day, came suddenly upon him to arrest and take him back to the South. His fellow laborers were frightened and fled, leaving Ben alone to cope with five men. He defended himself desperately with his axe, and said afterwards that at one time he had them all five on the ground at once. But at length he was tripped up and overpowered, but not without seriously wounding several of his captors and receiving injuries himself from which he never wholly recovered. This seems to be one of those cases where a slave was returned to the South without even the form of a trial. He was taken to Baltimore and placed in Hope H. Slater's notorious slave prison to await sale to the far off cotton fields of the Gulf States, the usual fate of returned fugitive slaves. But his wounds made him unsalable (much to his master's chagrin, who had hoped to take him unharmed for obvious reasons, with which humanity had little to do), and he was confined to this slave-pen, when a meeting was called at Forestville, of which I take the following report from the *Pennsylvania Freeman* of June 6th, 1844:—

"An animated meeting was held on the subject of Big Ben on the 26th ultimo in Forestville, at which George Chapman presided and E. H. Donatt acted as secretary, and the following, among other spirited resolutions, was adopted:

"Resolved, That it is the duty of every one to do all that he constitutionally can to defeat and baffle the slave catcher, to protect his prey from his grasp, and to hold up to public scorn and indignation the infamous conduct of the Baillys and Hubbards and all other Northern men who sell their principles and barter the rights of their fellow men for Southern gold."

The sum of \$700, the amount demanded by Slater, was soon after raised, and George Chapman and Jonathan K. Bonham were sent on behalf of the citizens, who paid the ransom and restored the kidnapped slave to his adopted Northern home.

After his return to Bucks county he was never the same man that he was before. His physical strength was much impaired by the wounds received in his struggle for liberty and his spirit seemed much broken. He worked for a time in Buckingham, and in my own native township, where I remember seeing him occasionally, and, although bowed down somewhat by the hardships which he had undergone, I was always impressed by his enormous stature. His feet especial-



ly were conspicuously large, and one of the jokes that then passed current was that his shoes were never mated, one being older than the other, as it took so much leather to make him a pair that he could afford to buy but one at a time. He was married some ten years after his return to a woman named Sarah Johnson, of Norristown, who spent with him the last years of his life in the Bucks County Hospital, where they told a visitor they were well off, as they always had plenty to eat and wear. I suppose Ben's shoes were mated after the county began to foot his shoemaker's bills!

For information as to the case of Big Ben I am especially indebted to Alfred and Edward Paschall, who interviewed him in the Asylum toward the close of his life, and obtained important statistics as to his life and his escape from slavery.

I am informed by John S. Brown, now of Swarthmore, formerly for many years the successful and honored head of the **BUCKS COUNTY INTELLIGENCER**, that some time in 1837, he having finished his apprenticeship, and living with his mother in Plumstead during the temporary absence of his father in the West, he was one day in Doylestown on business, and as he passed the Temperance hotel, then kept by his brother-in-law, Kirk J. Price, Mr. Price stepped out and asked him, in a somewhat mysterious manner, to keep a sharp look-out as he passed a corn field along Academy Lane, and a passenger would present herself, whom he was to take to the house of Charles and Martha Smith, in Plumstead, (Martha being his father's sister) ask no questions, and leave her in their care. He did as directed, and soon saw a woman looking cautiously out from between the corn rows, stopped and took her in, conveyed her to the house of his aunt, and they gladly received her and no doubt forwarded her on her way to the next Underground station at either Quakertown or Stroudsburg. In that way, he says, he became for one day, a conductor on the Underground Railroad.

From Isaac Warner, of Hatboro, I learn that his father's house was one of the stations of the Underground railroad, and that slaves would frequently stop there, hire out in the neighborhood for a few days, and then be directed, with, of course, the necessary letters and needed aid, to the house of the father of Isaac's first wife, Richard Moore, of Quakertown, whose home has already been described as the last and one of the most important stations in the northern part of our county. This was during the thirties, early in the history of regular anti-slavery organizations. About 1835 one Joe Smith, who had worked for Isaac Warner's father some two years, being one of that large number who did not care to be forwarded to Canada, went to Byberry and engaged with a Mr. Walton there, and soon after married a free woman, by whom he had two children. Early in the spring of '37 or '38, learning that his master was seeking him in the neighborhood, he was at once sent on to Quakertown, of course, to the care of Richard Moore. Shortly after, Isaac informs me, the wife and children were sent to his father's house, where he had them covered up in a wagon with plenty of straw and started with them to Quakertown. He was directed to stop nowhere on the road for fear of detection, and to take with him a bucket in the

wagon to water his horses at some stream on the road. If enquired of on the way he was to say that he was going to Richard Moore's pottery, the abundance of straw in the wagon being, of course, supposed to be for packing the wares on his return. He made the journey without molestation, united the man and his family and they were promptly forwarded to Canada on the Underground Railroad, by the usual route.

Let me give you an amusing instance of one of the difficulties encountered in investigating this subject of the Underground Railroad. Wishing to know more about one of the points where an important underground station seemed to have been successfully worked for a number of years, and knowing no one in that vicinity, I addressed a letter of enquiry to the postmaster there, briefly stating what I desired, and why. In a week I received the following reply:

"There is a mistake about there being an Underground Railroad here. There is no railroad, nor was there ever any slaves here that anybody here knows anything about. I am sorry I can't give you any information on the subject you have so much at heart, but indeed I can not."

## COLONIAL RELICS.

### Many New Specimens Added to the Museum.

An Increase Well-Nigh in the Ratio of Compound Interest Marks the Progress of the Collection of the Bucks County Historical Society.

An increase well nigh in the ratio of compound interest has marked the progress of the colonial collection in the museum of the Bucks County Historical Society at Doylestown since the catalogue, "Tools of the Nation Maker," was issued in October last.

Donors have been so numerous that their gifts must be discussed rather in groups than specifically.

Previously overlooked Dyerstown, through the bounty of James Barclay, Miss Barclay and Miss Ann Burgess, has overwhelmed the society with presents. An antique panelled sleigh surmounted with an acorn figure-head, too large for the floor, hangs from the ceiling of the museum. In this group of objects reaching back to the time of the founders of Roadside Mill on Upper Pine Run, is seen John Dyer's three-cornered hat of more than a century ago, his purse with four pieces of Continental money, an ancient child's cradle, several colored prints illustrating scenes in the Mexican war, old sleigh bells, mince meat knife, lantern, yoke for a jumping cow and an ancient's child's top.

Then comes the region about Deep Run, adding liberally to the collection of specimens of illuminated handwriting,



through the kindness of Henry K. Gross, Abraham Godshalk and Isaac Gross, illustrated further by companion sheets from John Walters, of Chalfont, and *taufscheiner* covered with hearts, flying figures, birds and tulips in many colors, of Nathan D. Roeder and S. W. Boyer, of Spinnerstown, and Oliver H. Erdman, of Steinsburg.

A number of yellow slip-decorated pie dishes, showing uniform figures playing fife and drum, a woman on horseback and stag hunt, supplement the previous collection of Bucks county earthenware. With these—thanks to the kindness of Mrs. Elvina Dickenshie, of Spinnerstown—the society is able to boast of a pie dish with the following translated motto around a large yellow star:

"In this dish shines a star,  
Tho girls like the boys."

("In der schusel steth ein stern,  
Die medger hen die buben gern.")

"Eating is for body and life,  
And drinking does not go badly with it."

("Das essen ist vor leib und leben,  
Trinken ist auch gut darneben.")

The latter surrounds the rim of an ancient yellow drinking cup adorned with tulips of the date 1793, deposited by Mr. Frantz, of Hilltown.

If it were possible to discuss this new earthenware at length we could not fail to describe Miss Agnes B. Williams' decorated toy pie dishes for children and brown barrel-shaped water cooler, probably a relic of the old pottery on Windy-bush Hill.

Who would believe that the old potteries made earthenware vessels, corrugated sides and tunnel-shaped top, to catch cockroaches, if he did not see with his own eyes specimen No. 887, once upon a time sugar-coated for the purpose. This was kindly presented by Joseph Shive, of Milford Square.

To turn from art in pottery to art in iron brings one to the most interesting Durham stove plate yet found in Bucks county, donated by Patrick B. Trainor, of Doylestown. Though broken in half the design easily connects itself with the German art influence that flourished at Durham nearly a century and a half ago. Perhaps what is seen is a fragment of one of the fanciful illustrations of mediæval myth, called dance of death, previously described under No. 879, where the skeleton seizes the king and turns away from the warrior. Just as in one of the cuts recently published upon this interesting subject in the January number of the *Open Court*, a demon blowed at the bellows into the ear of a speaker. Below a smaller figure, in a dress of William Penn's time, stands near two fighting pigs. There are German legends above and below but the break in the plate disconnects the idea.

Enough is seen, however, to realize that the range of artistic expression of the old iron casters of Durham was far greater than anyone had supposed, and that it opens to the student in history of this region the decoration of iron in tulips, flaming harps and birds of earthenware, richly illuminated letters, colored floriated designs and symbols of the fractur, a subject not of local but National importance.

A sofa of peculiar interest by reason of its form and association has just been presented by George H. Hull, of Danborough. It is an old red specimen with peculiar slats.

Any one interested in the early story of the United States revenue and the relation of distillation to the community should see the household still with coil in barrel and double copper boiler with bird-shaped head, long used for distilling herbs, medicines and applejack by the Armitage family of Solebury in Colonial times. This generous gift of John A. Ellis, of Mechanics Valley, together with two large tin kitchens, a calabash tobacco box, a cup for wetting the fingers while spinning, a beautiful brass kettle for making applebutter, a series of interesting prints and pictures, a tobaccoist's Indian, a hominy mortar of apple wood and a pestle, a large wooden comb on wheels used to drag across the clover field and catch the heads, an interesting series of tallow candle dipping machines given by Mrs. Amos Armitage, James H. Grier, Samuel F. Ginsley, Henry S. Fisher, Mrs. Isaac H. Worstall and Mr. Frantz, are a few of the objects that attract the particular attention of the visitor to an overcrowded museum.

It would require many columns to go into detail as to the numerous specimens over and above those mentioned which have been finding their way to the room. Such as a picture representing a lion and a lamb, numerous other animals and figures and landscape, loaned by Mrs. Elizabeth Canby Jenks, of Yardley; a weather cock, ox chains, footh extractors, human hobbles and handcuffs, heavy harness and a multitude of other objects generously given or loaned by Dr. W. G. Benner, Joseph Sine, Gen. W. W. H. Davis, Henry Barner, William Stuckert, Seneca Hellyer, Davis E. Brower, Viconza Wetherill, of Doylestown; Miss Amy Callender, of Mechanics Valley; Joseph Shive, of Milford Square; George H. B. Barron, of Easton; Mahlon Carver, of Solebury; Miss Melvina Miles, of Davisville; Mr. Rufe, of Ferndale; Capt. J. S. Bailey, of Buckingham; David Angeny, of Danborough; Christian Sehman, of Levin; William Funk, of Iron Hill, and Elias Paxson, of Solebury.

## WHEN MEN WERE SOLD.

### The Underground Railroad in Bucks County.

The Famous Route from Slavery to Freedom, as Described Before the Bucks County Historical Society, by Dr. Edward H. Magill, of Swarthmore, Jan. 18, '98.

At this moment David Paul Brown arose, and his erect and stalwart form, and dignified and earnest manner, at once arrested the attention of the crowded court. He began by admitting the force of the arguments which the



claimant's counsel had adduced, saying, "unfortunately, by the laws of this boasted land of freedom, the right of one man to claim another as his chattel slave in many of our States is unquestioned; and even in the States called free the slave owner from another State is permitted by the laws to seek his flying fugitive wherever he can be found; thus practically making these Northern States a free hunting ground for the master seeking his fleeing bondmen." At this point he paused, and the anxiety of the friends of the fugitive on hearing this admission may be imagined. When Mr. Brown suddenly drew himself up to his full height—raised his forefinger—pointing most earnestly to the opposing counsel and continued, in his most impressive and deliberate manner: "Thus far I freely admit the force of the argument of the claimant's counsel—but there is one fatal flaw in this indictment and upon that I take my stand. This is a *land of law*; this is a *court of law*; and nothing can be decided in this court but under the strict sanction of law. Am I not right?" The Judge, apparently deeply moved by the manner of Mr. Brown, graciously bowed assent. Mr. Brown proceeded: "The opposing counsel has made a clear case for his client except in one important point: he has not shown by proper evidence that, under the laws of Maryland, a man may be held as a slave, and not showing this his case goes by default." "But," exclaimed the young prosecuting attorney, "Maryland is a slave State. Everybody knows that Maryland is a slave State." "Everybody is nobody," thundered Mr. Brown, "Common report does not pass before a court of justice. You must prove it by the proper documents. The right to hold a fellow man as a slave is too important a right to rest on any but the most direct and substantial evidence." Here the young attorney stepped out and quickly brought a copy of the laws of Maryland, which Mr. Brown, after a glance at the title page, returned saying that it was not a properly certified copy. The young attorney then begged for a brief delay that the proof demanded could be secured. But Mr. Brown was unrelenting and demanded the dismissal of the case for want of proper proof on this point. The Judge, who had been deeply moved by the plea of Mr. Brown and his earnest manner, grew more and more uneasy in his seat, and the whole feeling of the court and of the assembly was now evidently on the side of mercy. At this juncture the Judge arose and said suddenly: "*The case is dismissed.*" Instantly Robert Purvis was at the elbow of Dorsey, leading him toward the door. A crowd of sympathizers rushed out with them and were just in time to see Purvis and Dorsey in a light carriage, behind a fleet horse, disappear down Academy Lane. So far as appears that was Basil Dorsey's last visit to Doylestown. They drove rapidly to Philadelphia, where Robert Purvis left Dorsey at his mother's, telling her to ask no questions and keep him well concealed. Soon after he took him on to New York, where he was taken care of by good friends of the slave and later was joined by his wife and children in New England.

Twenty-five years after, during the war that ended slavery, the door bell of Robert Purvis in Philadelphia was rung and a young colored man, of refined appearance and bearing, was ushered into his parlor. When Mr. Purvis came in he rose and said: "Is this Robert Purvis?" When told that it was he said, "My name is Robert Purvis Dorsey. You saved my father 25 years ago, and he has always told me that I must find your house first whenever I came to Philadelphia."

When Mr. Purvis first told me this story, about three weeks ago, he was deeply affected, and seemed to dwell upon some parts of it, repeating them over and over before he would let me go. He also added that a few years after the war he visited Basil Dorsey and his family, and found Mr. Dorsey a well-to-do citizen, with an interesting wife and a number of children, all of whom had received or were receiving a good education. "The whole case of Basil Dorsey," said Mr. Purvis, "I have always considered the most interesting case of my long and eventful life."

Wishing to know something of the later life of this hunted fugitive I made enquiry in different directions, but seemed to obtain no clue, when a few days ago I happened to speak of the case to Elizabeth Powell Bond, Dean of Swarthmore College. "Why," she exclaimed, "I preached the funeral sermon of Basil Dorsey in 1872!" In a few minutes she found among her papers, a printed copy of this admirable sermon, and in it I found printed the bill of sale of Basil Dorsey, executed in '51 soon after the passage of the Fugitive Slave Law. He was then in business in Florence, Mass., and often called to Boston and elsewhere and his numerous friends feared that under the new and infamous law, his liberty even so far away as Massachusetts, might be again imperilled. So they made up the sum of \$150, which his old master preferred to accept, rather than incur the risk of his recapture in those troublous years, when the war for freedom was preparing every day, and received from the master this bill of sale. I have had it carefully copied and deposit it among your mementoes of those dark days now happily passed, as I would deposit a slave driver's whip, manacles, iron collars, or any other relic of the barbarous system of slavery—for, in the language of Mrs. Bond: "It is of historic value, as really a relic of barbarism as the instruments of torture by which the slave drivers maintained their authority."

As I afterwards told Robert Purvis of this interview with Mrs. Bond, the good old man was deeply moved, and said: "Such coincidences, as they are sometimes called, are *not* accidental, and I firmly believe that you are divinely directed in the work which you have undertaken."

Among the hundreds of cases of fugitive slaves who have passed through Bucks county, according to the testimony of eye witnesses, and especially by the careful records of Richard Moore, many more might be verified by a thorough investigation, before the last of those engaged in the Underground work have passed on to the higher life. But these few may suffice as type cases, illustrative of the sufferings endured, and the



dangers bravely dared by this oppressed and long suffering race. Let us rejoice that, in the wise ordering of Divine Providence, this dark stain upon our National escutcheon is at last removed, and that our beloved country may now proudly take her place in the vanguard of the world's onward march among the nations of the Earth.

ONE OF THE CHATTEL RECORDS OF BALTIMORE CO.

(BILL OF SALE.)

Know all men by these presents, That I, Thomas E. Sollers, of Frederick County and State of Maryland, for and in consideration of the sum of One hundred and fifty dollars lawful money of the United States, in hand paid by George Griscom, of the city of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, Attorney at Law, at or before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged: HAVE granted, bargained and sold, and by these presents Do grant, bargain and sell, unto the said George Griscom, his Executors, Administrators and Assigns, One Mulatto Man, named Ephraim Costly, otherwise and now called Basil Dorsey, aged about forty-three years, a slave for life. [The said Ephraim Costly, otherwise and now called Basil Dorsey, as aforesaid, having been born a slave for life of Sabrick Sollers, late of said Frederick County, in the State of Maryland, and raised by the said Sabrick Sollers, and owned by him as such slave for life until the decease of said Sabrick Sollers, after which he became the property, as such slave for life, of the said Thomas E. Sollers, (who is a son and one of the heirs at Law of said Sabrick Sollers, deceased,) and is now a fugitive from service from said State of Maryland.]

To HAVE and To HOLD the said described Mulatto Man named Ephraim Costly, otherwise and now called Basil Dorsey, a slave for life as aforesaid to the said George Griscom, his Executors, Administrators and Assigns forever, and he the said Thomas E. Sollers, for himself, his Heirs, Executors and Administrators, the said Mulatto Man Ephraim Costly, otherwise Basil Dorsey, unto the said George Griscom, his Executors, Administrators and Assigns, against him the said Thomas E. Sollers, his Executors and Administrators, and against all and every other person or persons whatsoever, shall and will warrant and forever defend by these presents.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal, this Fourteenth day of May, Eighteen hundred and fifty-one. Signed, sealed and delivered

THOMAS E. SOLLERS. [SEAL.]

In the presence of  
P. GORSUCH.

STATE OF MARYLAND, } S.S.  
CITY OF BALTIMORE, }

Be it Remembered, That on this fourth day of May, 1851, before the Subscriber, a Justice of the Peace for said, appears Thos. E. Sollers and acknowledges the above Instrument of Writing to be his act and deed, according to the true intent and meaning thereof, and also at the same time personally appeared George Griscom and made oath on the Holy vengels of Almighty God that the consideration set forth therein is true and bona fide as set forth. P. GORSUCH.

Concluded.

## WHEN MEN WERE SOLD.

### The Underground Railroad in Bucks County.

The Famous Route from Slavery to Freedom, as Described Before the Bucks County Historical Society, by Dr. Edward H. Magill, of Swarthmore, Jan. 18, '98.

Another case was given me by Isaac Warner, but as it did not pass through any part of Bucks county, (being confined wholly to Montgomery) I will pass it by saying that the parties who interfered with the arrest of a fugitive were fined to the amount of four or five hundred dollars, which amount they had to pay. If the case had occurred after the passage, in '50, of the Fugitive Slave Law, the fine would have been two thousand dollars, with imprisonment for a period not to exceed six months.

I will now briefly state a case with which our family have been quite familiar. Rachel Moore was a slave near Elkton, Maryland, more than fifty years ago. She was manumitted by her master, and received free papers from the court at Elkton. I had hoped to present these papers, as they were long carefully cherished in her possession, but they have been mislaid since her death. She had six children who were still slaves, and succeeded in carrying all of these off, and bringing them North, aided by the Underground Railroad. As usual they traveled only by night, resting in concealment during the day. Think of a mother starting unaided, with her six children, to a distant and unknown country, seeking for her children the blessings of freedom which she had already acquired! Does not the fact speak volumes for the cruelty of the system of oppression from which she was making her escape? They sometimes met with friends who took them in and cared for them during the day, and sent them on at night. Sometimes they were less fortunate, and spent the day of anxious concealment all alone. The first names that I have of those with whom they stopped are a family of Lewises with whom they spent two days at Phoenixville, and who then sent them on in a wagon at night to a friend named Paxson, near Norristown, who afterwards took them into Norristown to the house of that well-known friend of the slave, Jacob L. Paxson, where they remained two weeks. From there they were forwarded to the home of W. H. Johnson, where homes were found for the four eldest children in the families of Thomas Paxson, Joseph Fell, Edward Williams and John Blackfan. Rachel, with her two youngest children, came to the home of my father, Jonathan P. Magill, where they remained for several years. I am indebted to Fanny, one of these children, for the details of this account.

The Christiana tragedy, sometimes



Known as the Gorsuch murder case, which occurred in 1851 and was one of the early test cases of the Fugitive Slave Law, which was passed in 1850, is too well known to require an extended description here; but I may say that I am credibly informed that some of the slaves concerned in that tragedy passed through the upper end of our county, by way of Norristown, and were received and cared for by Richard Moore, at Quakertown. Dr. Smedley, in his interesting history of the Underground Railroad in Chester and Lancaster counties, gives quite a full account of this case and speaks of three principal actors in it, Parker, Pinckney and Johnson, as passing through Quakertown. But there was another of these fugitives who passed over much more of our Underground Railroad, in this county, as I have learned from the lips of an actor in the case within a few weeks. This man was brought by a Friend to Philadelphia on a Sixth-day evening, soon after the Christiana riot, probably by previous arrangement with William Lloyd, of Dolington. William, being in market on that evening, arranged to take the slave home with him and then send him on toward the North. He agreed to do this, knowing full well the heavy penalty of \$2000 fine and six months imprisonment to which the new law would make him liable if detected. What a sad condition of our Country when the law makers were so overawed by the slave oligarchy of the South that they would frame laws that the best of our citizens must evade, being unable conscientiously to obey them! The Country being aroused by the tragedy at Christiana, and pursuit and search being therefore especially to be feared, William started home late on Seventh-day, covering his man completely with straw in the back part of his covered wagon. On approaching home during the night he took the slave to a colored family whom he knew, living in a small house in the edge of a wood on the Newtown and Yardleyville pike, close by Janney's dam. The next morning he sent for Henry M. Twining (from whose lips I received this account a few weeks ago) and asked him to call at the house of the colored man near Janney's dam and take on toward the North on First-day night the colored man whom he had brought the day before from Philadelphia. He took the proper conveyance that night and drove him to the house of my father, Jonathan P. Magill, of Solebury, arriving there considerably after midnight. When called up by Henry's knocking father and mother were both much startled and seemed to hesitate for a few moments what to do, but my sister Rebecca, the only other member of the family then at home, came to the door of their room and said "we cannot do anything but admit them and take care of the fugitive." So they came in and were kept over-night, Henry M. Twining returning home in the morning with the assurance that the slave would be cared for and promptly forwarded and aided on his way to the North. Later the word came that he was safe in Canada and he doubtless went from our home either to Richard Moore's or took the more eastern Stroudsburg route, perhaps going up from New Hope in the stage line that was then running between New Hope and Easton. I may say here in passing that it must have been by this

stage line, with letters either to the Vails or to Jacob Singmaster, of Stroudsburg, that, when quite a small boy, I sent forward three men and two women, as I remember, driving these five colored people to New Hope, and putting them in the care of the stage driver, paying their fare to some point to the North. I do not mention this as an important event and my memory is rather indistinct concerning the details, though I feel quite sure of the fact.

If it be asked why I did not learn afterwards by what route the colored man bought by H. M. Twining was sent on, I would say that I was absent in Brown University all of that year, never afterward living at home, and I have no idea that either my parents or my sister, Rebecca, knew it was one of the slaves from Christiana that they were sending on, and would not therefore distinguish him from various others sent on, in that anxious year, either to Quakertown or Stroudsburg.

I proceed now to state the outline of the case of the slave Jane Johnson (which case was connected with the imprisonment of Passmore Williamson), as she passed on her way North over a part of the Underground road of Bucks county. For the facts in this case I am indebted to a paper prepared a few years since for the Historical Society of Montgomery County by Dr. Hiram Corson, of Norristown, after he was 91 years of age, a paper full of interesting reminiscences of the Anti-Slavery movement, and those most prominently engaged in it, which paper will probably be given to the public at an early day.

Jane Johnson and her two boys, and 11 years of age, were brought to Philadelphia by their master, a man named Wheeler, of Virginia, then United States Minister to Nicaragua. Learning that they had arrived on a steamer lying at Walnut street wharf and soon to sail on to New York, William Still and Passmore Williamson, of Philadelphia, found means to inform the slave that being brought to Pennsylvania by her master she was free by the laws of our State. She thereupon made her escape from the boat with her two little boys, and they were secreted by Anti-Slavery friends in Philadelphia. Still and Williamson were tried before Judge Kane for the abduction or attempted abduction of a slave. When Williamson was required by the judge to produce the slave in court he could not do so, as the mother and her boys had been aided by friends in making their way to Boston, where they were kept concealed. Williamson was then consigned to prison on the frivolous charge of "contempt of court." As the case proceeded and the false testimony of the master seemed likely to imperil the case of the slave, the great risk was incurred of having Jane Johnson brought from Boston to confront him with her testimony. The public feeling was wrought up to a very high pitch and there was danger of collision in the court, the United States District Attorney declaring that he would take the slave before she left the court room, the state authorities declaring that he should not. But she quietly left the room unmolested after her clear and impressive testimony was given and was accompanied in her carriage by James Miller McKim, Secretary



of the American Anti-Slavery Society, Lucretia Mott and an intrepid officer named George Corson. A carriage load of officers also followed them as a guard. Soon after she was brought to the house of George Corson, of Plymouth, where she received kindly care. I will give the conclusion of the case in the words of Dr. Hiram Corson:

"Mahlon Linton and wife, Abolitionists of Bucks county, happened to be on a visit to George Corson and family, and it was concluded that a son of George Corson, when only eleven or twelve years of age—but now Dr. E. M. Corson, of Norristown—should, with a carriage having Jane in it, as he did not know the road, closely follow Mahlon Linton's carriage through the night to Mr. Linton's home, beyond Newtown, Bucks county. After dark they started and all through the night went on, reaching this second Underground station, Mr. Linton's home, before the morning dawned. From there she was helped on to Canada, where her two boys had been already sent."

Dr. Corson's paper contains numerous references to interesting cases of slaves who were passed on by him either to Richard Moore, in Quakertown, to W. H. Johnson, in Buckingham, or to Mahlon B. Linton, as in this case. It will be seen that the Underground Railroad, with its numerous stations and sub-stations, often pursued a very zig-zag and irregular direction, sometimes to elude pursuit, and often according to the convenience of the various agents of the road.

I come now to an important case with which Robert Purvis was closely identified, several details of which I had heard at different times from John S. Brown, Henry M. Twining and others. Feeling the importance of having these details properly connected, that I might present a clear statement of the whole case, I have had two very satisfactory interviews with Robert Purvis at his home in Philadelphia during the past three weeks. He is now past 85 years of age and quite feeble, his memory of recent events (not of those of his earlier life) showing the effect of age. He received me most cordially, with all the grace and dignified courtesy for which he was so notably distinguished in early life, and at the close of each interview of more than an hour, he dismissed me with the same dignified and gracious manner, begging me to call at any time when he could render me the least service upon any subject. In his account of the case that especially called me to his house he fully confirmed all that my other friends had said, and added some important points. The case as he gave it to me is substantially as follows:

He said that he was living in Bensalem about the year 1838. He had then living with him a most excellent and faithful colored man named Basil Dorsey, who had been with him about two years. At this time Dorsey was visited by a brother-in-law of his wife, from the State of Maryland, whence he came. This brother-in-law, for some reason, became jealous of Dorsey in his happy home and betrayed Dorsey and his three brothers to their master, from whom they had escaped in '36. The master (their reputed father,) aided by a notorious slave catcher, came to Philadelphia and arrested

Thomas, one of the brothers, and hurried him away to slavery, from which he was soon redeemed by his friends by the payment of \$1000. Soon after the arrest of Thomas these men secured the aid of a constable from Bristol and obtained warrants from Judge Fox, of Doylestown, for the arrest of the remaining three brothers. Two escaped them, and were taken by night by Robert Purvis' brother, Joseph, to a friend's house 40 miles distant, in New Jersey, whence they were forwarded to Canada. Basil now alone, remained, and the slave hunters came upon him toward evening as he was ploughing at a distant point on Robert Purvis' farm. Word came quickly to Mr. Purvis, brought by the son of a neighboring farmer, of the attempt to capture and hand-cuff Dorsey, and he hastened to the spot, where he learned that they had already started to Bristol with their prey. Robert immediately had his fleetest horse harnessed and made pursuit, reaching Bristol as they were locking up Dorsey in a cell where criminals were confined. He remonstrated, and addressed a crowd who assembled, telling them of the outrage, and warmly enlisting their sympathy. The master informed him that they would go to Doylestown the next morning, and bring the case before Judge Fox. In the morning, taking Dorsey's wife and two young children, Mr. Purvis drove to Doylestown, and employed as counsel Thomas Ross, one of the ablest lawyers then at this Bar. When the case

came up the judge was deeply moved—for, said Purvis recently as he told me the story, "he was a man with human feelings if he was a judge;"—and the forlorn condition of the hand-cuffed dejected prisoner, and the tears of his young wife and their two children, moved every heart to pity; and to gain time, and make provision for the best possible defense, and for other reasons which appeared later, (but not before the court);—the lawyer for the defense succeeded in putting off the case for two weeks and the hand-cuffed prisoner was remanded to a cell. There two weeks were well used by Purvis and his friends. The colored people were thoroughly aroused, and preparations were made for a forcible rescue if the case went against Dorsey. As the time for trial approached Purvis drove to Philadelphia, and called upon the best criminal lawyer at that Bar in those days, David Paul Brown. He stated the case in a few words and offered Brown a fee of \$50 if he would come to Doylestown and defend Dorsey. To this Mr. Brown replied, almost indignantly, that he had never charged a dollar for defending a slave, and never would, but that he would gladly come to Doylestown, and take the case as requested. At the end of the two weeks the case came on here before Judge Fox, and a young and rising lawyer of this Bar, was the claimant's counsel. Mr. Brown was promptly on hand for the defendant. Although it was against the principle of the Abolitionists to pay for a slave, the great sympathy felt for Dorsey, and the fear of losing the case, had caused two attempts to be made to purchase him. The master asked \$500; when that sum was offered by his friends, he raised the price to \$800; and that being also offered, he demanded \$1000. "No," said Dorsey, when consult-



ed, "Do not pay it. I am prepared to take my life in court, if the case goes against me, for I will never go back to slavery." Mr. Purvis said to me last week that he could but commend the man for his brave resolution—and the case came on. The prosecuting attorney made a clear statement of the claim, presenting the bill of sale, and the necessary evidences of the legality of the demand of the master. Robert Purvis felt, as he listened to his plea and considered that the interpretation of the law was then almost invariably favorable to the slaveholder, that Dorsey's fate was practically sealed, unless the forcible rescue, contemplated and prepared for, was resorted to, upon which hundreds of well prepared colored men were resolved, but which they wished only to use as a last resort.

### WHEN MEN WERE SOLD.

Kidnappers in Horsham Township Seventy-five Years Ago, Wherein the Kenderdine Family was Much Involved — Reminiscences of Slavery Times.

For the INTELLIGENCER.

The interesting reminiscence of slavery days, given by Dr. Edward H. Magill, of Swarthmore College, at the late meeting of the Bucks County Historical, at Doyestown, recalls to my mind an interesting account of kidnapping, in Montgomery county, related to me by my father, John E. Kenderdine, who, with several members of our family, were participants in the arrest of kidnappers and in effecting a final escape of the negro.

A full account of the affair was written at the time, by John Kenderdine, of Horsham, and published in the *Norristown Free Press*, of June 26, 1833. The account being lengthy I can only give a synopsis of it.

The colored man's name was John, and he worked for Joseph Kenderdine, a farmer of Horsham, who died in September, 1822. A month later, the evening of the 20th of October, a party of five men came from Middlesex county, New Jersey, to the Kenderdine home. They obtained entrance to the house on some pretext and with loud threats seized the colored man "John," handcuffed him, put him into a Dearborn wagon and were prepared to drive off with him when Issackar Kenderdine told them they must go before a judge, prove property and show their authority. To this demand they roughly replied that they had authority enough and told him to stand off or they would blow him through and then drove away at a rapid speed. Several persons followed them, calling on them to stop.

The pursuers rapidly increased in numbers as they proceeded and the whole neighborhood became aroused. The kidnappers were in a closed carriage, and their horses were urged to their top speed, but their followers on horseback kept pace with them, riding alongside and in front and with clubs and stones so battered the carriage and obstructed their passage that they were glad to stop at a

hotel at the Billet (now Hathboro), where they were taken out of their carriage and placed in an upper room, where they remained under guard all night.

The hotel was then kept by Isaac Marple, where they had stopped a few hours before and ordered supper. Here they were forced to go before Judge Hiram McNeill and make their claim for the black man as their slave. The Judge demanded a bill of sale and that they prove his identity. They had no bill of sale to prove this, but claimed him by inheritance. They were forthwith arrested for kidnapping and bail in the sum of \$6000 was demanded, or be committed to jail. The bail was finally found in Newtown.

This trial for kidnapping took place at Norristown, January, 1823, before Judge John Ross, and Hiram McNeill and Richard B. Jones, associates. The courts and politicians then sympathized with slavery, and if there was a conviction for kidnapping the penalty was heavy. So Judge Ross, in his charge to the jury, stated that he had doubts about the black man being a slave, but as to his alleged kidnapping there was so much contradictory evidence that he would advise an acquittal.

The jury seemed unwilling to accede to the view of the Judge and it was only after a consultation of six hours that they agreed to an acquittal.

Then a counter civil suit was instituted by the Jerseymen against Isaac Tomkins, John Kenderdine, Issachar Kenderdine, Justinian Kenderdine, John Iredell, Thomas Kenderdine, John E. Kenderdine, Robert Kenderdine, Henry Sandman, Thomas Iredell, Samuel Gray and Jacob Tomkins, charging them with harboring and attempting to rescue a slave. Damages to the amount of \$10,000 were claimed against them.

This suit was postponed from time to time for ten years. It finally came off before the United States Circuit Court in Philadelphia in April, 1833, before Judges Baldwin and Hopkinson. The names of the Jersey plaintiffs were Ralph Johnson, Caleb Johnson, Phineas Withrington, John Skillman and William Higgins, who had been engaged in carrying off the black man from the Kenderdines.

In this trial four celebrated Philadelphia lawyers took part, two on a side. Josiah Randall and William Kittira appeared for the prosecution, whilst William Rawle, Jr., and John Sergeant plead for the accused Horsham parties.

The jury brought in a verdict of \$4000 damages against John Kenderdine, Issachar Kenderdine, Isaac Tomkins, Justinian Kenderdine, John Iredell and Robert Iredell.

Thus were six prominent men of Horsham jointly fined \$4000, to which was added \$1500 costs, making \$5500. Some of the parties were wholly unable to bear the loss, and to aid these several petitions for assistance were circulated in different neighborhoods. I have found among my father's old papers a petition in his writing and circulated by him. It is headed thus:

"To the Philanthropic Citizens of Pennsylvania:

"WHEREAS, By the decision of the United States Circuit Court, in a trial commencing April 29th and ending May 7th, 1833, in which Caleb Johnson, citizen of New Jersey, plaintiff," then follows the names of the six defendants charged



with "hindering said plaintiff from obtaining the negro he claimed as his slave." The names of the subscribers are as follows:

Joseph Kenderdine.....	\$20 00
John E. Kenderdine.....	25 00
Moses McClean.....	10 00
John McClean.....	10 00
P. Shoemaker.....	10 00
Charles Thomas.....	10 00
John Shoemaker.....	5 00
Cornelius Conrad.....	5 00
Jesse Shoemaker.....	3 00
Moses Lukens.....	5 00
George Shoemaker.....	5 00
Isaac Thomas.....	3 00
Andrew Ambler.....	6 00
James Rutter.....	10 00
Thomas Hughes.....	6 00
Atkinson Hughes.....	5 00
John Scotton.....	5 00
Robert Kenderdine.....	25 00
S. N. & E. Cliver.....	15 00
William Mullen.....	3 50
Thomas Wright.....	2 00
Benjamin Garigus.....	5 00

These several subscriptions amount to \$395 50. Twenty of the above names were members of the Society of Friends, and they all lived in my father's immediate neighborhood. I notice that my grandfather, uncle and father were the three heaviest subscribers in the above list. There were other subscription papers circulated in other neighborhoods but I have no means of knowing how much was realized.

I have often listened when a boy to my father refer to the great excitement of the time, and the part he acted in the matter. As he lived several miles from the centre of the disturbance, he did not arrive at the scene until the kidnappers had been run down and were landed in an upper room of the tavern at the Billet, as it was then universally called. The part he played in the drama was to carry liquor and eatables to the confined prisoners and he stood guard over them throughout the night. As this occurred in October, 1822, he was within one month of being 23 years of age, and consequently must have entered into the excitement with all the ardor and vigor of youth.

The petition for subscriptions is dated May 8, 1833, and as my father moved the following April, 1834, from Horsham to Solebury, Bucks county, (and resided here till his death in 1868,) the excitement had not subsided when he departed from the former place, consequently he felt much interest in relating his experience to his new neighbors, and this gave me many opportunities to hear his story repeated.

WATSON KENDERDINE.

Solebury, 2d-mo., 1898.

From, *Intelligencer*

*Doylestown Pa*

Date, *3/23/98*

## DURHAM STOVE PLATES

### Significance of the Valuable Decorated Collection.

They Reflect Gleams of Color, Legends and Ancient Themes of Beauty—Origin of Stoves and the Allegorical Figures Used in the Various Designs.

The existence of decorated plates of cast iron, about two feet square, recently brought to light in Bucks county by the Historical Society, through the efforts of Mr. Henry C. Mercer, of Doylestown, ought to be of general interest. Historians of Pennsylvania might well be surprised that the artistic leaven in the ingredients of colonial life, represented by these elaborately decorated iron hear-looms, for a time regarded as facings for the backs of fire places, but finally identified as the component parts of stoves, had so completely escaped their investigation and notice, said Mr. Mercer to a representative of the INTELLIGENCER on Tuesday.

Yet they illustrate the much-talked of relation of Germany to the United States in one of its most interesting points. They demonstrate the fact that the medieval art impulses of Germany, crossed the Atlantic to survive, for a time at least, among the stern and material conditions of the Pennsylvania backwoods. For more than one generation the artificer, who had worked within knowledge of the splendid monuments of Nuremberg, Rothenberg, Colmar or Basel, retained a memory of his craft.

The cumbersome stove plates, the floriated earthenware recently investigated by Mr. E. A. Barber, and the illuminated handwriting lately rescued by ourselves, reflecting gleams of color, legends and ancient themes of beauty from an unlooked-for corner of the wilderness surprised the investigator. They appear as incongruous elements in the material narrative of wood cutting, Indian fighting and Legislature building. Yet they are there. As survivals of the past, proven ingredients of national character, they must be taken into consideration.

For many reasons the artistic impulses concerned in the making of all these hear-looms, the stove plates, the illuminated



writing and the earthenware, must be classed together. And though in this instance we speak particularly of the decoration of stoves, it should be borne in mind, by way of a general preface, that with the exception of some of the earthenware of English origin all these crafts were German, and furthermore that all were the work of the peasant, or the man of the land, as distinguished from the inhabitant of cities.

Because of the first fact we must go to Germany and not elsewhere to explain the tulips, birds and allegorical figures about to be discussed, and because of the second we must admit we are dealing with those instincts and motives which are the deepest and most characteristic in the case of any given people, namely, those which are known to cling longest about the life and habits of the agriculturist, the man of the land.

After the more conscious art of Germany began to be affected by Italian and other influence, after the walls of the Bavarian palaces and churches became denationalized in design with the kind of ornament known as rococco, the men of the land in remote valleys or hamlets continued to decorate the handles of scythes, carve tombstones, or paint earthen trenchers as his ancestors had done, just as he continued to repeat fairy tales and customs or sing ballads that reveal the Teutonic character in the clearest and simplest manner. Such is the nature of the artistic themes of these stone plates made by German workmen at Durham Furnace a century and a half ago, or of the jars, plates and illuminated leaflets referred to above. The art is that of the German peasant. Therefore it is rude. But it is ancient, and like the ballad song of Strasburg, or the story of the Juniper tree, it is as purely as possible Teutonic, and pertains to that fountain-head of unconscious popular suggestion, from which artists like Wagner declare they seek inspiration.

Near a column adorned with curtain and tassels Potiphar's wife leaps from her couch to seize the fleeing Joseph, over the motto "DAS. WEIB. DES. SUCHT. IOSEPH. ZU. ENTZUNDE. IM. I. B. MOSE. 13. C. 1749." The armed helmeted figure of a warrior approaches a skeleton (museum No. 879) who turns away to lay hold of a burly character in rich dress, probably a king or potentate, who seeks to drive off the destroyer with a club or sword. The whole design illustrating one of the episodes in the ancient allegory known as the "Dance of Death," referred to later. Beneath runs the legend "IHR. FEIT. MIT. MIR. DER. RITER. TOT. —. MICH. TOTS. NO." From a heart and vase set under two round arches spring two tulip shaped flowers (No. 237), one set between the initials "S. F.," and above the legend "LAS. DICH. DAS. BESE. NICHT.," below which, in a medallion, with four tulips, two of which spring from hearts, is the date 1756. A generally similar specimen, omitting the initials "S. F.," but with the same date, shows the motto "DIS. IST. DAS. IHR. —. IN. WELT.," while two other generally similar plates, duplicates of each other, with the same date and abundantly decorated with hearts and tulips, exhibit the imperfect legends "RICHTET. NICHT. AUF. DAS. IHR."

On a somewhat larger plate a figure in a costume of the early 18th century appears to be speaking or reading while a

demon, his inspirer, blows into his ear with a bellows. Behind him stands a smaller figure in similar dress, apparently mimicking his action, at whose feet two swine fight desperately. Unfortunately this plate is broken in half, so the full significance of the design is lost, while of the disjointed motto, both above and below the figures, nothing remains but the following words: "FERTIGE. DURCH. GEDULT. HOFFEN. UEND. —NCKEN. WRDDEN. GETROFEN."

These are some of the designs in cast iron, which through the kind help of Patrick B. Trainor, of Doylestown; I. J. Stover, of New Britain, and Captain J. S. Bailey, of Buckingham, we have had the pleasure of placing in the museum of the Historical Society at Doylestown, as novel memorials of the early history of Pennsylvania.

On account of the zeal of certain friends, who, visiting the collection last summer and learning from us the significance of the plates, have instituted rival collections and removed several specimens from the county, we have been able, to add fewer examples to the county's series than the case warrants. But enough have been placed at Doylestown for study, to establish the value of the information given gratuitously to the collectors referred to at the start, and to generally illustrate the meaning of the plates which invite our attention both from the point of view of their execution and design.

We learn that they were cast in open sand, which accounts for certain swellings on their backs and that they form component parts of rectangular stoves of various sizes, one of which had been presented to the Bucks County Bi-Centennial by B. F. Fackenthall, of Riegelsville.

We learn from him that none of the moulds, which may have been made of wood, or as we suggest, of stucco, or glued clay, are to be found in the precincts of the furnace.

Moreover, the making of these stoves, which, in part at least, took place under the directorship of the Backhouses, at Durham Furnace, from 1741 to 1756 at least, was not probably confined to those works. But though we have heard of other contemporary stoves from other furnaces we can not learn that any were decorated to the extent of these specimens, the oldest one of which, yet found, dated 1741, appears to be in the possession of Mr. Fackenthall.

In more ways than one we can trace the origin of the stoves to Germany, when the heating of houses by stoves, often of earthenware, had been the common custom before the discovery of America. On the other hand the open hearth, prevailing much more generally in England had been introduced into America from the latter country. Because of the cheapness of wood German emigrants turned at first from stoves to fireplaces, so that these wood stoves, made in the first place rather from habit than stress of circumstances, appear to have attained no very general vogue. They were soon demolished, and their plates were afterward built in the backs of fireplaces or the floors of bake ovens, about the time that Franklin's fireplace stove became a favorite in the parlors of the rich.

But it is the symbolism in the designs of these stoves—the Dance of Death, the Heart, the Tulip, and the birds—(from



the illuminated writing)—that constitutes their chief point of interest. All are survivals in the United States of artistic themes long in existence in Europe. The "Heart" and the "Birds" are very ancient. The "Tulip" may be equally so, while the "Dance of Death," to the surprise of the antiquarian and historian, illustrates the existence in the Pennsylvania colony, and in once omnipresent form, of one of the most interesting allegorical themes known to mediæval art.

It is easy to learn from encyclopedias that the notion of personifying the triumph of death sprung out of the conquest of Paganism by Christianity in Europe, and flourished in Germany in the 14th century, in plays or dialogues between Death and his victims, where a skeleton or shriveled corpse, dancing to a fiddle, leads off one individual after another.

It is easy to learn that the theme became mixed with the seven martyred brothers of the seventh chapter of Macabees and hence was called in France "*La danse Macabre*," that artists represented it in frescoes, carvings and tapestries, at Paris (1425), Amiens, Rouen, Salisbury (1460), at Lubeck (14th century) and at Basel (1324), and that finally, after the invention of printing, the dialogue and dance idea of the drama gave way to such impressive treatments of the theme as Holbein gave it in his celebrated wood cuts executed in 1538. These things have been generally known, but who had realized that German artificers came to Durham in the middle of the last century and cast the design upon the faces of stoves to continually confront the settler with a lugubrious truth.

The German engraver, Johann Bink, (1520) represented the heart in the hands of Venus as symbolic of passion. Christian art in a gallery of the cathedral at Venice, (8th century) and in old pictures of St. Magdalene refers to it as an emblem of love. With the stove makers of Durham the design seems to have taken a strong hold of the fancy. They not only continually produced it on the plates, but their contemporaries painted and outlined it on the leaflets, called *fractur*, and the plates and jars. Sometimes it appears to be the source of growth of a tulip, sometimes the root from which springs the stalk of a tree or many branched flower, but whether as a bordering for the *taufstein*, a feature of the colored hymn or a part of the stove plate, it indicates everywhere that living spirit which impelled so many of the German settlers, who used and still use the affectionate "thou" to call each other brother.

Turn back to the 7th or 8th century and to the advent of Byzantine architecture into Italy for proof of the antiquity of the figure of a bird, symbolizing the human soul, or that of two birds, apparently pecking fruit or the petals of a flower. To cite a few of many instances we see it carved in stone on one of the galleries of the cathedral at Venice (7th century), on a parapet of the University of Ferrara (8th century), on the cathedral of Torcello (11th century), and on a fountain at St. John Lateran at Rome (8th century). Here again, after the lapse of ages, it survives as one of the prominent decorative features of the artistic crafts of Pennsylvania. It will not be difficult for the student of religious symbolism to explain more fully the significance of this

emblem, or of the single bird, probably derived from Egypt, as significant of the human spirit. The chief point to be noted here is that the emblem crossed the Atlantic and survived among us in the memory of a generation now living.

In like manner our own present ignorance prevents our going far towards the elucidation of the further very prevalent flower outline on the stove plates, which because of its shape, its contemporary appearance on earthenware and the assertion of George Diehl of the potter's tradition that the style of work, expressing the flower was known as "*tulibogen*" can be reasonably regarded as tulip. But because the tulip whose very name, *tulpend* (*turban*) is oriental, was introduced to Augsburg in 1559 from Constantinople by Conrad Gesner, we cannot suppose that any tulip patterns in Christendom, these designs included, are older than that date. On the other hand there are tulip-like designs on an illuminated missal once belonging to Charlemagne (9th century); in the Louvre, on a leather covered chest, (date 1510); in the castle at Meran, Austria; on a buttress at Santa Maria in Valle, Italy, (8th century), and on an arch at Porto, Rome, (8th century.) But it may be going too far to make definite assertions about any floral designs thus conventionalized. We must grant a good deal to chance and the decorator's caprice. If the outline on the stove plates is a tulip the motive cannot be older than the date 1559. If it is not a tulip, and we are permitted to trace it backward through the floral designs above referred to it far antedates that strange epidemic of the 17th century known as the "Tulip Mania," which for a time seized Holland like a plague, and when Dutch gardeners went mad enough on the subject to pay prices like 4000 florins for a single bulb. If it is older than this we may perhaps be permitted to realize its outline on a base of a column at the chapel at St. Zeno at Rome (9th century) and follow the arguments of those who find its earliest suggestion in the Egyptian lotus.

From, *Intelligence*

*Doylestown Pa*

Date, *McL 25/26/1898*

#### Relics Owned by Mrs. Wist.

Mrs. Frank B. Wist, of Yardley, is the owner of a cartridge box that was carried by Captain Philip R. Schuyler (a descendant of General Philip R. Schuyler of Revolutionary fame), who was fatally wounded at the battle of Antietam, September 16 and 17, 1862. The box is of black leather, with the number of his company on it in brass figures, and contains the old style of cartridges, which are very familiar to those who served their country in the exciting days of the Rebellion. It



came into the possession of Mrs. Wist through her grandmother, Mrs. Hannah M. Schuyler, mother of the Captain, and is treasured very highly as a relic. Among the other relics which are in the possession of Mrs. Wist is a blue china plate with a slightly scalloped edge bearing the names of the fifteen States which then composed the Union. It is not known exactly how old the plate is, but as Kentucky is the fifteenth State named, it is supposed that the plate was manufactured about 1793. On one side of the plate is the Statue of Liberty, while on the other is Justice holding in her right hand a medal of Washington, while in her left she holds a Masonic emblem. At the bottom of the plate are the words "America and Independence." In the centre of the plate is a picture of the capitol of the United States at that time.

## WHEN MEN WERE SOLD.

### The Underground Railroad in Bucks County.

A Supplementary Chapter to the Interesting Reminiscences of the Famous Route from Slavery to Freedom, by Dr. Edward H. Magill, of Swarthmore.

Since the publication of my paper on the Underground Railroad of Bucks county, testimony comes in from various quarters, some of which will be of interest to the readers of the INTELLIGENCER. It may be remembered that Basil Dorsey, after his liberation at Doylestown, was soon sent to New York, and on that route there were a number of stations kept by friends of the slave, ever ready to forward the escaping fugitive. The following letter from Edward H. Ogden, of Riverton, N. J., bears witness to this:

"There was also a route on the Underground Railway to Canada through New Jersey, for I remember when a lad, while staying at my Uncle Enoch Middleton's, at Crosswicks, N. J., being aroused one night after midnight by the arrival of a runaway slave very much alarmed. My cousin, William Middleton, and myself drove him to Hightstown, having him concealed and covered with straw in the bottom of the wagon. We delivered him safely that night to the Underground agent to whom my uncle consigned him. I remember being badly scared at the toll gate as we drove through, fearing the wagon would be examined."

Another instance of escape through Bucks county and then by the Underground road through New Jersey, comes to me in a letter recently received from William Baggess, now of Millville, Pa., and well known in my early life as the secretary of the Bucks County Anti-Slavery Society. He writes:

"Sometime about 1840-45, when residing at Langhorne, we had a party of six stout fugitives arrive, whose experience had

been somewhat different from that of ordinary fugitives. They had escaped on a small boat used in connection with the lighter service on Albemarle Sound. Their trusted leader, or captain, having a small compass, and knowing something of the inlets of the coast, had piloted them slowly northward, having secured some provisions before starting, and they succeeded in working their little craft up the Delaware Bay and up the river, landing only for short periods, until they passed Philadelphia, and then they accidentally found a friendly adviser who directed them to our village. On arriving there they found shelter for the night among some colored people. The next day their case was made known to our Anti-Slavery friends and I was chosen to convey them to Trenton in a good covered wagon, in which all were placed. I was advised to report them to B. Rush Plumly, then a merchant there. On arriving at the store I spoke to Rush, and he, seeing the situation, said drive them into the yard, and get under cover of the barn, as there were slave hunters then in town, looking for victims, and we might arouse suspicion. He furnished ample provision for the party, but advised me, if possible, after feeding the horses, although storming, to push right on to Princeton where there was a safe rendezvous. Although the team was hired for Trenton only, considering the situation, I did not hesitate, and on reaching the suburbs of Princeton I reported my party to a colored man, who was on the regular line, via New Brunswick and the Raritan river steamer to New York. I left them in good spirits, and learned later that they had been safely forwarded by Anti-Slavery friends to Canada. Though I had had a dreary ride on such a day I returned home well satisfied with having contributed a small item toward carrying out the precept of our Divine Master, to do unto others as we would have others, under similar circumstances, do unto us. Thousands of similar cases could, no doubt, be enumerated, but I have been pleased to see the old record referred to, partly as an incentive to our young friends in the line of humanitarian duty whenever an opening occurs; something of a practical character, as the essence of a true religion, more potent, progressive and uplifting to our fellow men than loud professions and blind theories, devoid of utilitarian results."

It will be remembered that at the meeting of the Historical Society, after my paper was presented, William C. Blackfan stated a case of two fugitives coming to the house of his father, John Blackfan, in Solebury, and being named by him. I have endeavored to learn all the details of this case still accessible, and have received from Dr. J. B. Walter, of Solebury, the following account given him by "Scott" himself, and which varies somewhat from the memory of W. C. B. He writes:

"This man lives within a few hundred yards of this village, (Solebury,) and has resided here for many years, being still a pretty hale but very ignorant old man. He knows nothing whatever of dates, and I am unable to fix accurately the time of his arrival. Scott says that William C. B. was about 15 or 16 years old when he arrived. Mr. B. thinks that is about correct. That would place the time of his arrival about 1847 or '48, say fifty years ago.



But Scott also says that some old man named Ayer or Ayers told him (Scott) three or four years ago that he knew him to have been here more than fifty years. That old man is dead, hence the story cannot be verified. Scott's master rented him to a doctor, and told the doctor that the boy was over twenty-four years old. That was about a year before he ran away. This should make the runaway not less than 75 years old, which, from appearances, is not far wrong.

"This man, with six others, came from Queen Ann county, Md., he personally from Centerville. One of these they lost on the way. The others all came to Bucks county. Their names were William Scott, Parry, Helmsley, James Griffith, William Wright, William Stephens and Alec Reed. Helmsley and Griffith were cousins of Scott. Griffith still lives in Trenton, N. J., and Helmsley died there a few weeks ago. Wright went to William H. Johnson's, in Buckingham, and afterward to John Ruckman's. Stephens went to Jonathan P. Magill's, and Reed was for a time at Dilworth's. Scott thinks all but Griffith and himself are dead.

"Scott and Helmsley first went to Newtown (Mahlon B. Linton's and other places) for a few days. From there they went to Jonathan P. Magill's. From here Helmsley went to Mahlon Gibbs', and your brother, Watson P., brought Scott to a place on the road a little way from Blackfan's, directed him to the place and went on. Scott made his way to Blackfan's and worked there several years. William C. Blackfan said at the Historical Society and has since told me that two men came, whom his father named. Scott says that he went there one, and that no other came afterward, to his knowledge. When he ran away he took the alias William Scott, and John Blackfan simply called him Sam. He says he never told anyone what his real name was, and did not tell me. Scott once owned a little house in this village. He sold it and bought the lot of about six acres upon which he now lives. I now he has been there more than twenty-eight years, and probably five or ten years longer.

"The old times have passed away; slavery went out in the throes of a great war, and the events preceding the war, and many of importance that occurred during those sad years have grown misty in the minds of the survivors. A new generation is upon the stage, having no personal knowledge of and but little interest in the things of which you wrote. Your paper came none too soon, and was to me and many others extremely interesting. I have made photos of Scott and his hiding place, which I send herewith, hoping they may, in some degree, make amends for my failure as to 'facts, dates and common report.'"

The case of the fugitive, Rachel Moore, who escaped with her six young children, has always been to me a subject of deep interest, she and some of her children having been for a number of years, connected with my father's family. It is therefore with great pleasure that I received recently, important supplementary information as to their escape and sufferings, and the kind friends who aided them on their way, in the following letter from my friend, Grace Anna Lewis, of Media, Pa. She writes:

"I will give thee some additional ones which relate, I think, to the fugitive Rachel Moore, mentioned in thy very interesting notes of the 'Under-Ground Railroad.'"

"I do not remember her by name, possibly she had not then assumed it, but I have no doubt that the woman and her six children are the same who came to our house, not to Phoenixville, but four and a half miles from that place, on a farm, midway between Kimberton and Chester Springs, near the road leading towards Lionville and West Chester. There was no anti-slavery family of the name of Lewis living in Phoenixville, and none except ours, in the region at the time, so I cannot doubt that the person referred to is the same as the one I remember. I suppose that she and her children were forwarded to Elijah F. Pennypacker, near Phoenixville, and by him transferred to Jacob Paxson, of Norristown, since that was the usual route for fugitives sent in that direction. It would be very easy for a child (the daughter, Fanny Moore, now surviving, mentioned in my paper) in this lapse of time, to forget—indeed quite marvelous if she should not.

"The woman to whom I refer reached us in a most pitiful condition. Soon after she and her children left the home of the master, a rain came on, and the flapping of their wet garments against their unprotected limbs wore off the skin, until it bled with every step, yet their sense of danger of capture was so great that they pressed forward with all the speed possible to them. I think the mother carried the youngest child to hasten them forward. When they reached our home they were too sore to do anything but rest and recuperate. In addition to their need of rest was that of northern clothing. My memory is that the mother wore but a *single garment*, a coarse, heavy dress made of tow, woven in broken stripes of red, an inch or more in width, and totally unlike anything of northern manufacture, the children being dressed in the same material. Of course this clothing exposed them to detection by the first pro-slavery person they should meet; and it had to be burned immediately, as soon as the other could be provided. A store for such cases was kept constantly on hand at our house, much of it being prepared by a number of anti-slavery families, who sent it to us in quantity. Our home was usually the first on the line where southern clothing could be exchanged for northern. Frequently the haste was too great to admit of delay at an earlier time. In the case of John Vickers, of Lionville, the next station south of ours, his wife had long been dead, and there was no one to attend to such matters. His pottery stood immediately on the public road, and there was little opportunity for concealment, except when due, in exceptional cases, to his own quick wit, or that of his assistants, white and colored. He was a most kindly man, and was faithful in the highest degree to his anti-slavery principles, as was also our dear and venerated friend, Elijah F. Pennypacker, the next station in an opposite direction, as well as Lewis Peat, to whom we frequently sent our colored guests. As was usual in most cases, we never heard anything further of this woman and her children until I listened to thy account in



ne INTELLIGENCER. The gathering up of the ashes 'for history's golden urn' is not alone for succeeding generations, but for the old workers too. It was very pleasant for me to know that after all her trials, this woman had found a safe home with thy father and mother."

I shall be glad to give, from time to time, a supplementary chapter to this history of those dark days of my youth when the name of our vaunted free Republic was a mockery and a byword, because those were the days "When Men Were Sold." EDWARD H. MAGILL,  
Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pa.

From, *Democrat*

*Boylestown Pa*

Date, *April 30 1898*

#### Old Graveyard and Church.

The graveyard connected with the Mennouite church, in Washington township, Berks county, covers several acres, and is one of the oldest in Berks, being started about the year 1732. The church is one of the oldest in use in Eastern Pennsylvania. The old Mennonites hold their services here regularly as ever. The building is well preserved and may last many more years. Its quaint appearance indicates its extreme age. It is a wooden structure, whitewashed, and a little larger than the average school house. The joists upon which the roof rest extend far across the sides of the building.

From, *Republican*

*Boylestown Pa*

Date, *May 7. 1898*

## HISTORIC DOCUMENT.

The First Public Anti-Slavery Pro-

test in This State.

## IT WAS ADDRESSED TO FRIENDS

Yearly Meeting and Was Found Among the Records in Philadelphia—Bears Date of 1688—Descendants of Signers Are Residents of This County.

A paper which should have great historic value from the fact that it is said to be the first public anti-slavery protest in this State, has been found among the records of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of 1688. It was addressed to the Monthly Meeting of Friends.

The old document has a peculiar interest to the people of this county from the fact that one or more of its signers have descendants living in the county at this time, the family of Updegrave or Opdegrave, which name was originally Op De Graeff.

Joseph Updegrave, who recently died in Doylestown, was a descendant of one of the signers of the protest. The peculiar language of the paper is accounted for by the fact that the authors were Germans who had been in the country only four or five years but who had made remarkable progress in comprehending the English of more than two centuries ago. The paper, which has never been published in this county before is as follows:—  
"This is to the Monthly Meeting, held at Richard Worrell's:—

"These are the reasons why we are against the traffic of mens body, as followeth: Is there any that would be done or handled at this manner? viz: to be sold or made a slave for all the time of his life? How fearful and faint hearted are many at sea, when they see a strange vessel, being afraid it should be a Turk, and that they should be taken, and sold for slaves in Turkey. Now what is this better done, than Turks do? Yea, rather it is worse for them, which say they are Christians; for we hear that the most part of such negers are brought hither against their will and consent, and that many of them are stolen. Now though they are black, we can not conceive there is more liberty to have them slaves, as it is to have other white ones. There is a saying that we shall do to all men like as we will be done ourselves: making no difference of what generation, descent, or colour they are. And those who steal or rob men, and those who purchase them, are not all alike. Here is liberty of conscience, which is right and reasonable here ought likewise liberty of the body except of evil doers, which is another case. But to bring men hither, or to rob and steal and sell them against their will, will stand against In Europe there are many oppressed for conscience sake; here there are those oppressed which are of black colour. And we who know that men must not commit adultery—some



commit adultery in others, separating wives from their husbands, and giving them to others; and some sell the children of these poor creatures to other men. Ah, do consider well this thing, you who do it, if you would be done in this manner—and if it is done according to Christianity. You surpass Hollaud and Germany in this thing. This makes ill report in all those countries of Europe, where they hear of it, that the Quakers do here handel men as they handel there the cattle. And for that reason some have no mind or inclination to come hither. And whom shall maintain this your cause or plead it? Truly, we cannot do so, except you shall inform us better thereof, viz: that Christians have liberty to practice these things. Pray, what thing in the world can be done worse towards us, than if men should rob us away, and sell us for slaves to strange countries; separating husbands from wives and children? Being now this is not done in the manner we would be done at; therefore we contradict, and are against this traffic of men's body. And we who profess that it is not lawful to steal must likewise, avoid to purchase such things as are stolen, but rather help to stop this robbing and stealing if possible. And such men ought to be delivered out of the hands of the robbers, and set free in Europe. Then is Pennsylvania to have a good report, instead it hath now a bad one, for this sake in other countries. Especially whereas the Europeans are desirous to know in what manner the Quakers do rule in their Province and most of them do look upon us with an envious eye. But if this is done well, what is done evil?"

"If once these slaves, (which they say are so wicked and stubborn men) should join themselves—fight for their freedom, handel their masters and mistresses, as they did handel them before; will these masters and mistresses take the sword at hand and war against these poor slaves like us we are able to believe, some will not refuse to do? Or, have these poor negroes not as much right to fight for their freedom, as you have to keep them slaves?"

"Now consider well this thing, if it is good or bad. And in case you find it to be good to handel these blacks in that manner, we desire and require you hereby lovingly, that you may inform us herein, which at this time never was done, viz, that Christians have such liberty to do so. To this end we shall be satisfied on this point, and satisfy likewise our good friends and acquaintances in our native country to whom it is a terror, or fearful thing, that men should be handeled so in Pennsylvania."

"This is from our Meeting at Germantown, held ye 18th of the 2d-month, 1688, to be delivered to the Monthly Meeting at Richard Worrell's."

"Garret Henderick  
Derick Op De Graeff  
Francis Daniel Pastorius  
Abram Op De Graeff."

"At our Monthly Meeting, at Dublin, ye 30th 2d-month, 1688, we having inspected ye matter, above mentioned, and considered of it, we find it so weighty that we think it not expedient for us to meddle with it here, but do rather commit it to ye consideration of ye Quarterly Meeting; ye tenor of it being related to ye truth."

On behalf of ye Monthly Meeting,"  
"Jo. Hart."

"This, above mentioned was read in our Quarterly Meeting, at Philadelphia, the 4th of ye 4th-mo., '88, and was from thence recommended to the Yearly Meeting, and the above said Derick, and the other two mentioned therein, to present the same to ye above said meeting, it being of too great a weight for this meeting to determine."

"Signed by Order of ye Meeting.  
ANTHONY MORRIS."

From, *Democrat*

*Doylestown Pa*

Date, *May 17 1898*

## IN OLDEN TIMES.

Leaves From the Records of the  
Longstreth Family.

### A NOTE ABOUT DANIEL BOONE.

How Buttons were Made for Continental Uniforms.—Bits of History from Daniel Longstreth's Diary.—Dr. Rush's Ancestors and Inventor John Fitch.

John L. Longstreth, of Philadelphia, a son of Daniel Longstreth, has placed the valuable family historical papers in the hands of General Davis, of Doyletown, for use in the preparation of the revised edition of his "History of Bucks County." The DEMOCRAT is permitted to publish a few, which will no doubt have a curious interest for the reader.

The following is an extract from a letter written by Daniel Longstreth, who died in 1803, to his son Jonathan Longstreth, of Danville, Kentucky, dated Warminster, Bucks county, Pa., 10th-mo., 11th, 1791:

"This day is our annual election, when we are to choose one member for Congress; our State being divided into districts, Philadelphia county and Bucks county making one district, entitled to one member. The Congress are to meet at Philadelphia for ten years, and then to move to the Potomac, which is agreed to be the permanent seat of the government, though some people think they will not move from Philadelphia, notwithstanding that agreement."

"I have paid John Fitch for the surveying instruments and maps, being about £10 or £12"

Note.—Bartholomew L. Fussell (a nephew of Daniel Longstreth) and John Fitch



made brass wire out of an old settle of Joseph Longstreth's (who lived near Daviaville on property afterwards owned by the Montanye's) as no wire could be bought during the Revolutionary War. It was for button-making. At this time they made wooden buttons at the above-named Joseph Longstreth's. Bartholomew L. Fussell, in a conversation with Daniel Longstreth (who died in 1846) on 12th mo., 21st, 1832, stated that he turned, polished and shanked a gross in one morning before 11 o'clock.

The following are notes from the diary of Daniel Longstreth:

"9th-mo., 30th, 1843—This afternoon my wife and self rode to Byberry and arrived at Samuel Newbold's (near Red Lion, on Bristol turnpike). He resides 2 1/2 miles below Byberry Meeting House, and in his orchard, tradition says that Postquessink Meeting House formerly stood. The graveyard is now used as a township burial ground. John Hart, the noted Quaker preacher, who joined George Keith at the time of the separation prior to 1690, lived where Caleb Knight now resides, the next farm but one above the old graveyard. Friends left the Keithites in possession of the old Meeting House and built a Meeting House near where the present Byberry Meeting House now stands. I roamed through the old graveyard and copied part of the inscription from a marble headstone as follows: 'To the memory of James Rush, who departed this life March 6th, 1725, aged 43 years and 10 months.' This man was the father or grandfather of the celebrated Dr. Rush, who died in 1812 and was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. The old family residence was about a mile to the north of the old graveyard. It was a son of this John Hart, the preacher, that settled on the 300-acre tract to the north of my residence in Warminster. The family joined the Baptist Meeting in Southampton.

"—— Walmesley, of Byberry, has a cart, the hubs of which were used to haul baggage for Braddock's army at the time of his celebrated defeat in the French war of 1756 or 1757. They are still in use and good. They belonged at the time to Walmesley's ancestor and were pressed for the use of the army."

Notes:

"10th-mo., 26th, 1843.—Made a visit to Buckingham; John Watson, of this place, showed me an old deed of 1705, where Buckingham Mountain was called "La-hackick Hill;" also saw John Outler's survey of 1703 and 1709 of parts of Bucks county.

"7th-mo., 5th, 1844—I was told to-day that the celebrated pioneer, Daniel Boone, was born in Bucks county."

## TOWNSHIP AND STATE.

### Hon. Harman Yerkes on Their Relation.

A Review of the Various Forms of Government—The Efficiency of the Local Government as Against State Officialism and Centralized Power.

The following paper on "The Township in Relation to the State" was read by Judge Harman Yerkes, of Doylestown, at the bicentennial celebration of Gwynedd township on Tuesday:

My friends and neighbors.—For I can address you as such since the minutes of Gwynedd monthly meeting record that Herman Yerkes, of Plymouth, and Mary Stroud, of White Marsh, were married here, by Friends ceremony, on 1st Month 22, 1750. I am indeed indebted to that sensible step by my great grandparents for the privilege of participating in the interesting proceedings of this day.

When Penn became proprietor he brought here many settlers of deep religious convictions who, outraged at the corruptions, intolerance and worldliness of the established church sought religious freedom and favored an entire separation of the church from government. For this and other reasons he instituted a marked change in the system of government and introduced some features which were entirely new. He was, in the broadest sense, a reformer and white possessed of greater wisdom displayed a tendency to that marked characteristic of all reformers, experimental government. He declared himself committed to the "Holy experiment of creating a free colony for all mankind", and realizing that government, conducted strictly upon old lines, might defeat his object he proceeded to organize his with a guarantee of religious liberty untrammelled by sectarian influences. He invited to his settlement not only men of his own tenets but welcomed all classes of religious creeds which had revolted against the corruption of the church through connection with the civil administration. Yet under his broad promise he could not deny the right, incorporated in the Royal Charter, of the Bishop to appoint Anglican ministers should twenty colonists request it.

He divided his territory into the three counties of Bucks, Chester and Philadelphia, and in 1683 met with representatives chosen by the people of these districts and adopted a constitution based upon popular suffrage. Magistrates and officers were to be chosen by the people. But the unit of popular will was the county. The system proved too unwieldy to well in a thinly populated county where the settlements were widely

From,

*Intelligence*  
*Doylestown Pa*

Date,

*June 1 1895*



separated and often entertained opposing views of the conduct of affairs, and the people demanded a change. Instead of accepting the system which by trial, was known to be best adapted to primitive conditions, that of confiding the right of self government to the smallest unit of population and political organization, he was induced to revise the character upon the basis of representation by county lines again.

The new instrument provided for an assembly of four persons from each county elected by the people, while the executive council was to be appointed by the Governor. This deprived the people altogether of the power to control the selection of the general executive or administrative offices of the colony. In the local county government the wings of liberty were clipped; the people were given a voice but not full power in choosing the local officers. Sheriffs' coroners and magistrates were nominated by the Governor, who was to select from names handed in by the freemen. We thus see that the scheme of government adopted by the Proprietor eliminated, apparently with studied care, self government by the township or other small division, and constituted the county the unit of local power. This was wielded through the county courts comprising magistrates selected by the Governor. They appointed and commissioned officers to administer local affairs in the townships.

County taxes were levied "for the support of the poor, building of prisons or repairing them, paying the salaries of members belonging to the Assembly, paying for wolves' heads, expenses of judges" with many other necessary charges. The roads were maintained and the poor cared for by township overseers appointed by the court of Quarter Sessions.

Such was the character of government throughout the Proprietary period. The voice of the unit of population as representing the family and smallest territorial division, as it had always prevailed under Anglo Saxon government, was practically ignored and certainly less regarded by the Proprietary government than in the mother country and the majority of the sister colonies.

While Penn was earnest in his promise to grant his people the right of self government and his good faith has never been questioned, possibly, his own experience of persecution for religious belief had warned him of the violence of popular prejudice and religious frenzy and induced him to avoid the dangers of committing power to the popular control of small territorial divisions in the first experiment of granting absolute religious freedom. Therefore his frame of government was builded upon the idea that the will of the people could be more temperately and deliberately expressed by social discussion than through township self government. The freedom of the people in town meeting to choose their own officers and determine the character of their local government was denied. The peaceable designs of the friends and the the well known disturbances and discontent often arising from the ex-

ercise of the suffrage, no doubt, had a marked influence in determining the new departure.

As the head of a religious sect advocating the widest freedom of discussion and yet weighted with the idea of the old order of things, where the ecclesiastic wielded great power in government, Penn, no doubt, expected that his governing County Magistrates in close touch with the Friends Meetings, would ascertain the popular will through that association; he rejected the local popular self-government as dangerous to peace and harmony. Aiming to prevent disputes among neighbors he barred the vocation of the lawyer and provided for the settlement of differences through the agencies of arbitration and friendly advisers. On the other hand he unhesitatingly appropriated that forum of the lawyers the organization of the courts, as the best adapted to carry out the executive duties of his government, thus showing method and statesmanship in his plan. He constituted his courts of lay members appointed by the general executive. These administrative bodies performed their duties so acceptably that it was fifteen years after the declaration of independence before lawyers were admitted to share in the executive functions pertaining to them.

But as new elements entered into our citizenship the expression of popular opinion through the Sabbath and week day meetings and interchange of thought amongst the Friends became less representative and proved unsatisfactory for, in many localities, a majority of the inhabitants belonged to other religious societies and did not attend the Friends meetings.

Local discontent in widely separated settlements forced a change in favor of increased local self-government and after the revolution much of the power of governing the smaller divisions exercised by the county was transferred to the townships who by successive enactments were granted self-government in purely local matters and permitted to choose their own officers. They were allowed to provide, within themselves, for local charities, maintenance of roads, the support of the schools and the levying and collection of local taxes &c. Justice of the Peace were elective by the local community, and taking the place of the friendly arbitrators settled small differences among neighbors and supervised charities and the like.

The strong convictions of the Quaker and German Reformers, however, had made too great an impression upon public opinion to admit even, of a suggestion of a return to the parish establishment in local government.

This reaction from the experiment of lodging the unit of political power in the county seems, in many instances, to have gone to another extreme. We find local acts of assembly whereby townships were sometimes invested with extraordinary powers. The abuse in this direction became so great that the constitution of 1874 prohibited altogether, local legislation regulating the affairs of townships. The frequent



hardships caused by such a radical change in the organic law have caused the pendulum to again swing to the other extreme and by general legislation the courts are clothed with increased powers over local affairs as the only constitutional relief. This mistake, for it is a mistake, may be fraught with evil consequences, by undermining and destroying confidence in legal tribunals through requiring them to meddle in every petty local administrative affair. The danger is aggravated by that other mistaken provision which weakens the strength of courts of justice by discouraging popular interest in the personal of the tribunal. I refer to the removal from the bench of lay judges who were always selected from the representative or township business men and were therefore so well qualified to discharge those functions, many of them of recent creation, of the courts pertaining to local administrative affairs. It is as unwise in the year 1898 to constitute, exclusively of lawyers, a court upon which so many purely administrative duties fall, as prior to 1790, it was unwise and inadequate to form a court, exclusively of laymen, clothed with the performance of many judicial duties.

But the greatest danger which threatens local self-government in Pennsylvania is the strong tendency towards concentrating the administration of affairs strictly local in the hands of state officialism. This we owe to the cunning of the professional office holder who offers temptations to the voter and appears to his short sightedness by proposing that, in return for appropriations for local purposes the townships shall surrender their right of local self-government to the commonwealth and its appointed local officials. Thus is formed the machine in politics the engineers of which fully understand that the further removed from the observation of the local assemblages, who are fond of discussion and criticism, the official is, the less is he watched.

Hence, we have propositions, often thoughtlessly promoted by well-meaning men, for state controls of highways, of the poor and local charities, the schools, etc., as already we have over our local banking and other institutions by officials appointed by the heads of department and not answerable for their conduct to the people of the locality whose affairs they regulate, and entailing upon us that condition for which the King of England was arraigned in that he had "erected a multitude of new offices and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people and eat their substance."

Yet we can assert with some confidence that our system, well administered, secures to the people every element of local self government essential to their happiness, while it permits neither the town will of the New England system of the county control of the Southern and Western administrations to predominate.

It embodies many of the best features of both. It divides between the county and township the responsibility for local management while the party cau-

cus, regulated by law, gives fair expression to the will of the people, as represented in the lowest unit of political organization—the township. As the result of careful and honest effort and changes adapted to new conditions we have maintained a wise relation to the township or unit of governmental authority towards the State and county, and have gained the advantage of combined action to the general welfare. While the original scheme of the great founder has undergone necessary modifications we owe to him many blessings due to regulations found nowhere outside of Pennsylvania.

But the price of liberty is eternal vigilance. The limit has been reached when it becomes the duty of the freeman to sound the alarm against undue encroachment by centralized power upon that best guarantee of honest and pure management of public affairs and personal liberty, local self government maintained within the control of the smallest division of territory and the unit of the body politic, the township and its families.

Throughout our entire history of over two hundred years the officers of the township governments, who have, almost universally, served without pay have not even been suspected of that faithlessness to public duty or favoritism, dishonesty, bribery and cheating which we now constantly hear charged, sometimes proved and oftener uncontradicted against the high salaried, arrogant and irresponsible State officials who administer so many of the duties once confided to the control of the township or local government. The evils of the abuse of the centralized system of government are impressing themselves upon our people.

In every direction we hear the ring of the storm. Whether it shall assume the force of a tornado against official corruption and engulf the faithless public servant depends upon what the people in these "elemental republics" of our Commonwealth shall determine. It is to the home and the family fireside, where the influence of the church and religious bodies penetrates, where the Bible furnishes the precepts of life and where the love of parents finds response in devotion to the mother and honor to the father, that we must look for the lesson of purity in private life and consequent honesty in public conduct of affairs. The nearer to the influence of the family council we bring government the better, freer and honest it will be.

How then shall I estimate or describe that power which, as a little leaven, is the essential to life of every free government and has made us the great people we are. I refer to the social influence and function of the smallest unit of population best represented here by the township.

The contemplation of the hardships and dangers which our colonial ancestors endured reminds us that the charm of country life is not all due to the loveliness and beauty of blooming nature as we see it to-day, nor to the grand ranges of hills and forests, set off by the peaceful valleys and babbling streams.



In the long and dreary winters these, even, are uninviting and repellant. Neither is there pleasure to be found in the daily plodding of the husbandman or in the monotonous toll of his companion. Our ancestors endured greater hardships amid the dangers of treacherous savages and prowling wild beasts as they toiled to level the forests and to prepare the soil for cultivation and lived in humble habitations without many of the common comforts of life.

Such were and are the hardships of country life. They inured the sons and daughters to undergo privations, great physical labors and close mental application without exhaustion or discontent. But there are social conditions which rounded out the characters of the men and women whose descendants are proud to honor and imitate them. Amidst the occupations of country life families live more together and for each other; they visit among neighbors and in trusting confidences share their thoughts, burdens and pleasures. As they meet together at the church, the meeting house the school, cross roads store or shop, at local elections, at public entertainments or in visiting they consider, suggest and approve measures of common welfare. When their dead are to be put from sight the loss is the community's loss and all sincerely mourn. When children are born and marry the community's rejoice as for their own and bless them.

These social functions and duties cement together the country community. When a measure desirable for the common welfare is once agreed upon they select through their township meeting, without jealousy, the most prominent citizen to appear for them before the larger assemblage of representatives.

From such men, whose ability for public services the social life and political training in the township first developed and presented to notice, have come your leaders, your great Presidents, generals, statesmen, lawyers and foremost workers in every profession and class.

Washington meeting with his fellow citizens at Alexandria to devise means of internal improvements, Lincoln on a store counter in the Illinois hamlet arguing public questions with his neighbors, Webster discussing rotation of crops and the merits of cattle with the New Hampshire farmers and Grant learning the lesson of defeat, perseverance and patience as he carted wood to the little town of Galena, are types of the social development of these communities in which is best learned the lesson of keeping in touch with the opinions and purposes of the homes and home-makers of America.

To-day while we honor the achievements of our ancestors and accord to them their full dues let us not forget that we owe to our descendants the duty of preserving for them our institutions to which we owe so much of happiness and prosperity.

**PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE.**

## A Review of the History and a Forecast of Gwynedd.

A Paper Prepared by Edward Mathews, of Lansdale, and Read by A. K. Thomas at the Bi-centennial Celebration of Gwynedd Township.

This is a commemorative day. Our memories are the great conservatories of our experiences. This is a day for the reproduction of the past. It is an appeal to the hallowed gift of memory. It is a day that had its roots in long ago. We live now, and are what we are, largely because our forefathers lived before us.

Gwynedd is but a small speck upon the map of the United States. It is only one of more than a thousand districts of Pennsylvania, and its original territory forms but two of the 120 divisions of Montgomery county. It is a spot of importance, however, to those who are descended from its early settlers, and to those who have been domiciled within its borders. Not many townships within the State can celebrate, as we are doing to-day, the 200th anniversary of their settlement. None can rightfully feel more proud of the character and worth of the early founders of the township.

These settlers, Welshmen all, were men of character, of integrity, of standing, of considerable education, devout, religious people, who were of the kind that are of value to any country, and of special worth as the founders of a new colony. A number of them and their sons were preachers and missionaries of the Gospel, according to the faith and tenets of the Friends. They belonged to that great middle class of Great Britain, which in the centuries past has done so much for the industrial supremacy, the civil and religious liberties, of the Mother Country. This great middle class had been among the results of the Protestant Reformation, the fruits of generations of religious training. A half century before the men of this stamp had been inspired by the eloquence of Pym, and Eliot, and John Hampden, or followed the fortunes of Cromwell in his victorious struggle against the tyranny of prelacy and kingly rule.

These early settlers came to a heavily-wooded region, of undulating surface, of hill and valley and stream, a land of medium fertility, of soils of sandy loam, or more tenacious clay. The richer lands of the limestone belt southward were already taken before the close of the Seventeenth Century, or had become too high in price. Here was an undivided tract, large enough to suit the purposes of the fifteen grantees, who wished to obtain homes for a compact settlement of one race and one religious faith. It was laid out, like all the surveys of tracts in Eastern Pennsylvania, in a northwest and southeast direction, in accordance with the direction of the par-



allel ridges and valleys. The Wissahickon, here near its source, flowed, as now, southward through forest and meadow, though with greater volume, breaking through the barriers of the hills to become famous towards its mouth for its scenes of romantic and picturesque beauty, as it nears the Schuylkill within the bounds of the great city.

The Friends differed in many respects from other Protestant sects of their time, but yet were a branch of the Puritan faith, the early followers of which had founded New England 75 years before, and to whom the historian Macauley pays one of his most eloquent tributes of respect in his great history. Their very intensity of religious faith, their trust in a higher Power, their belief in God's protecting arm, their reliance upon the invisible forces of the universe, tended also to create industry, thrift, respect for order, a belief in education, a devotion to the freedom of the individual, an adherence to the purity of the family relation that invariably make men good citizens, capable of self-government, and prosperous in the world that now is. The Friends were peculiar in seeking to restrain the vanity of show and ostentation in dress, in places of worship, or sepulchre, in proclaiming the unrighteousness of judicial oaths, in refraining from using the courts and lawyers to settle their differences, shrinking from the slaughter of war, and believing that there was a better way than by sword and gun to right the wrongs of the world.

The early Friends who first settled Gwynedd were those from among many others, English and Welsh, who sought Pennsylvania, not only to obtain homes, and improve their personal fortunes, but also to acquire the utmost freedom of religious worship for themselves, and for their posterity. They, and more especially their fathers, had suffered for the faith in the old land, either by fines and imprisonment, or by the lighter persecution of contempt and ridicule, of tithes and taxation, to support oppression and an unjust ecclesiastical system that bore heavily upon all non-conformists. The invitation of William Penn has opened the glad some way towards freedom of worship, of material gain, of hope for the future for themselves and their children. We leave for others to tell of their personality of the details of their settlement, of the genealogies of their descendants, and of the erection of the several houses of worship upon this spot, around which lies the wide graveyard where lie the bodies of those who have gone before.

The immigration of the Welsh Friends to Gwynedd did not continue for much over twenty years. Had it continued during the decades after 1720, and had the descendants of these immigrants held possession of the lands of their ancestors, the whole township might to this day have been held by a homogeneous people, of one race, and possibly of one religious denomination. This was not to be, however. William Penn had made the invitation to come to his colony wide and

generous, and not confined to the Quakers of the mother country. Indeed the English missionaries sent to Holland and Germany had already made many converts who afterwards came to Pennsylvania imbued with the principles of the Friends, yet speaking a different language, and alien in many customs and through intermarriage, and soon came to form a valuable portion of the Colony.

There were other settlers, who were not of the faith of those who first came into Gwynedd. There was that small German sect called Schwenkfelders founded, humanly speaking, by Caspar Schwenkfeld, and who came from the Province of Silesia. It is peculiar in that the whole of it is confined to six organizations, and that all of these are found in Montgomery and Berks counties. None are left in the fatherland. They differed from the Friends in having music in their worship, and in stated or regular preaching. They were like them in the plainness of dress, their plainness of houses of worship, in their abjuring oaths and all fighting, their opposition to litigation, and the judicial oath. They were industrious, economical, and markedly honest and upright in their dealings. Like the Quakers they had felt the hand of persecution in their own land, and only more severely. In deed persecution was their richest heritage. It had continued from the dawn of the Reformation down to the time when the ship St. Andrew had brought them across the sea to America in 1734. Schwenkfeld was driven from his native land for the sake of his faith, and none of the Imperial cities of Germany could give him an abiding refuge. He actually was obliged to lodge in a cave for the space of two years, to secure safety, though he was of noble blood, and born to a palace home. He died in peace at last, and there is no account of Christian experience equal to the last hours of this man of God. The experience of the leader was that of the followers. Silesia was a land of extraordinary beauty. Every prospect pleased, but cruel men and rulers dwelt there. The sufferings of these persecuted people were simply indescribable. Even periods of peace were worse than the thirty years war. Finally, the most onerous taxation, instigated by the Jesuits drove them forth to America.

Some members of the Schwenkfelder faith began to come into the western corner of the township in 1735. They settled about the slopes and valleys that there incline to the westward. They were not far from the house of worship that they later built just beyond the township line in Towamencin. In proportion to their numbers, these plain and worthy people have furnished their full share for the aggregate moral tone, the religious habits, and the intellectual vigor of the composite population of Montgomery county.

Gwynedd was yet to have another component part of its early population. These were the German Lutherans and Reformed people. Their forms of worship were much more impressive and more ceremonial than those of the Friends and Schwenkfelders. They be-



in music, in ornament, and in lecture. They may have been in dress, but not as an article of faith. They did not abjure oaths, or turn a deaf ear to the strain of martial music. A generation furnished a large portion of the active military of the township for the Revolutionary war. Their faith was that of Luther and Calvin with a central and strong ecclesiastical policy, with music as a constant feature of their worship and at all times, irrespective of the movement of the Spirit. These people also came to enter the township about 1735, in the south, near Penllyn, and in other portions of the township. About 1750 the great majority of the people were of Welsh origin. Between 1750 and 1775 a great change took place. Those of German stock greatly increased, until by the time of the Revolution they equalled, if not exceeded, the posterity of the earlier settlers.

These Germans first worshipped in churches elsewhere, but from small beginnings were finally able to build a place of worship, St. Peter's, between 1776 and 1778, near the present borough in North Wales, which afterwards became known as the "Old Yellow Church" from the color of its paint. Between the Reformed and Lutherans, a difference of considerable difference in doctrine and policy, agreed to worship together. This produced sociability and a common feeling among people of different race and language—and it was economical.

Up to the time of the Revolution the people of Gwynedd were mainly of two races, and of four religious denominations. The population was homogeneous, like that of an old England town. It was difficult to find that public spirit that flows from a common interest, a common faith, the same race, a similar language. The people, for several generations, held fast to their language in church and in the home circle. That language has been gradually abandoned, though not entirely, and as the old generations pass away there has arisen a great community of thought and interest with a common speech. Industry, invention, and enterprise have brought their rewards. Wealth has come to the competence of the many, and is reserved for the very few. The drudgery and heavy burden has been lifted from labor by machinery, skill, and skill. Public schools, free of charge, are better than the best private schools of a century ago. In religion there is no longer zeal without knowledge. Moral reforms may not have been effected, but have greatly curbed and checked intemperance and licentiousness. The farmer reaps greater fruit from his fields, through greater and more intensive cultivation. Values have risen in value, immensely affected by the contiguity of the great city. There is a legitimate and healthy dissatisfaction with things as they are, which might be improved. It gives room for hope for the future and an inspiration for work to that future better than the past presents.

The first settlers of 1698 and 1700, who

came to rugged wilderness, could not imagine the condition of the township a hundred years later. A mighty change was to take place. There was a settled and occupied country. The pathless forests had been opened. Churches and schools had been established, and farmhouses dotted the township, in which dwelt a diverse people, speaking different language. All lived under the rule of a Republic instead of being subjects of a monarchy beyond the sea.

The fathers of 1798 did not hold a Centennial. It was almost impossible that they should. Centennials were not then in fashion. There was not then that community of thought and purpose, or that recognition of their value, that would render such an action feasible. Had they held such a meeting neither could they have foreseen the changes of the next hundred years. It would have been to them a strange vision to behold the different manners and customs, the changed aspect of field and forest, the growth in size, comfort, convenience and beauty of dwellings, the denser populations crowded in handsome village and larger towns, the culture conferred upon the masses by schools, books, and newspapers, the higher religions and spiritual tone, the softening of manners, speech, and discipline. They would have opened their eyes in wonder at the expansion of the vast city on the science, the changed implements of the Delaware, the progress of invention and field and the workshop, and the use of steam and the electric fluid as man's servants for transportation and the spread of intelligence.

Another century, and all who are here to-day will have moldered into dust. Then those who come after us will celebrate the 300th anniversary of Gwynedd in grander form and fashion than we are doing now, and in a stately building than this. With the utmost flight of the imagination we may fail to grasp the condition of things their eyes will rest upon. The writer is confident that it will be upon conditions as much grander and greater as 1898 surpasses 1798, because the progress of humanity is onward and upward. Nobler men and more glorious women, whilst remembering us, and noting what we did to-day, will recite a progress in all material, intellectual and spiritual things, such as we can but faintly conceive of now.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylstown Pa*  
 Date, *June 6 1898*



## BUCKINGHAM MEETING.

### Personal Reminiscences and Brief Sketches.

A Paper Written by A. S. Paxson,  
Esq., and Read at the Young  
Friends' Association at Bucking-  
ham Meeting House.

It covers a long period of time, something over two centuries of the latter half of the present century, the writer has much personal knowledge, and the forepart thereof he has learned through parents and others equally well informed of what has transpired. Concerning the time preceding this, we rely upon official records and the writings that prominent members of the meeting have left behind them.

In order to arrive at a correct understanding of the status of this meeting we will have to go back to a time somewhat anterior to Penn's arrival upon the shores of the Delaware. As early as 1680, meetings of worship were established about the Falls, even before the land bore the name of Pennsylvania and those Friends who were settled from Bristol upwards, used to attend the meetings for business at Burlington. The new or West Jersey Colony of Friends obtained patent from Edmund Andros and located on the west side of the Delaware, before the grant was made to Penn. At the Yearly Meeting held in Philadelphia in 1683, it was decided that the monthly meeting at the Falls should be divided into two parts the one to be held "about the Neshaminy." The first Falls meeting house was built in 1690. This Neshaminy meeting was near the stream Neshaminy and the courts of Bucks county were held in this house in the year 1692. About the year 1706 the name was changed to "Middletown Meeting" and so continued. As early as 1704 meetings for worship were sometimes held at Friends' houses, and in 1710 a meeting house was built and a meeting settled therein. In 1701 application was made by the men settlers above Wrightstown to have a meeting for worship, weekly, among themselves and others who might wish to meet with them, to which the Falls meeting assented. This gave a fresh impetus to move northward, into central Bucks, and in this they were not disappointed. Gathering together their household effects, with flocks and herds they began their toilsome journey. Traveling was not as easy then as now. Few roads were opened or bridges built, streams had to be forded and Indian trails or paths led through trackless forests or thick growth of underwood. Nothing daunted, they pushed onward, having an abiding faith that Bucking-

ham was a land of promise, favored above all others. In addition it called to mind that of Buckingham in England the home of their childhood. And now after a journey of two days the summit of our mountain is reached. As it was the first prominent feature in the landscape view on their way thither, they must have viewed it with a measure of delight, and from its crowning summit what a wondrous world of beauty met their enraptured gaze. In the long range of vision far away Haycock mountain with its rounded and blue summit rose high above intervening hills. But thither their steps were not led. Their eyes rested on beauty woven and cliff bound valley beneath their feet, their future homes. While civilization and refinement were yet in their infancy the work of felling the forest was under way and the woodman's axe was heard on every hand, stilling the wind muses of whose murmuring boughs swept gently over its rivulets and meads and floated in melody over the crystal ripples that burst forth so mysteriously from pebbled bottoms in the distant hills. Our little colony of Friends located, mostly adjoining this meetings property, and as the spring opened their husbandry commenced, and as May with its buds and blossoms and June with its summer baptism of jubilee opened up the summer our Friends felt as though they were in the real as well as ideal land of promise. As early as 1703 Friends met together and held meetings for worship at private houses, built a meeting-house on a ten acre lot of James Straeter's land, and in 1706, they desired to have glass windows but in the same, and Joseph Kirkbride and William Biles offered to pay the expense thereof. This house was built of logs cut from the nearby forest. In 1720, they found more room required, and yet again in 1729, they added an addition 16 feet square of stone. Up to this time the houses had been of logs or frame. It is now difficult to locate the house wherein Friends first met in 1700, before the first log meeting house was built, as they met at the houses of William Gooper, alternating at John Gillingham's, James Straeter's and Nathaniel Bye's, but it is probable at the houses of William Cooper on the Ash property a short distance west of us. The first meeting house in the grave yard, on the original Parsons tract, and the present one is on the Straeter tract, the line between the two following the grave yard wall. It is difficult now to fix the date when the present grave yard was first used for burials. It seems, however, as early as 1705, when Straeter conveyed 1 acres "in trust to build a meeting house on, and for a burying ground. Where interments were made before this I am unable to say. Tradition is it that the present yard was once an Indian field or clearing and may have been used for burial purposes, or may be Friends held over for a time, or until they saw a fitting place to lay in peace. But this is somewhat speculative, as we have no recollection of attending funeral before the present yard was used for that purpose. At a Quart



meeting held at the Falls in 1720, we learn: "Whereas Friends of Buckingham, hitherto belonging to Falls, being greatly increased in number and have for a long time, with hardships traveled a great way, moves to have a Monthly meeting of their own. Although loath to part with their good company they grant Buckingham a Monthly meeting." It is a significant circumstance that the membership then did not vary much from that now. In 1761, it was decided to build a new Meeting house, and the committee appointed to locate it, not being able to agree, they called upon the Quarterly meeting for advice, and received the following answer: "On the 25th day of the 1st month, 1762: We the subscribers appointed by the Quarterly meeting to assist you with some advice respecting some difficulty arising among you in regard to the building of a new meeting-house, and having fully heard the members of your meeting on the matter, and it appearing evident to us that there is a great disagreement amongst you concerning the place whereon to set the building, and considering the danger and hurt that may arise to a religious society, if such division should subsist, we carefully advise that Friends endeavor to divest themselves of private views and consider what may most contribute to the general good of Friends, and be more unanimous before they undertake the work. And as we have viewed the several places in debate, we are of the opinion that the most convenient place to set a new meeting-house is on the hill on the south side of the yard." Signed by Mahlon Kirkbride, James Moon, John Woolston, William Paxson, Thomas Paxson, Joseph Hampton, and Jacob Heston.

The old road bed is yet to be seen near the grave yard wall on the north side of the meeting-house. Additional ground was secured the same year, but it was not until the 11th-month, 1767, that work was commenced in the erection of the present structure. In 1768 the old house which stood in the grave yard took fire, while the meeting was in session and was burned down. There was a large fire place in each end of the house, with good wood fires therein, and the roof took fire from the chimney. A passer-by observed the fire and gave quick notice to the worshippers that their house was on fire. The next Monthly meeting was held in the old stable. It was concluded to hold the Monthly meetings at Plumstead until the new house should be finished and the Quarterly meeting next ensuing in the fifth month at Wrightstown. Monthly meetings were resumed in the new house in the 2d-month, 1769 and on New Year's Day, 1770 the committee reported the cost of land, material, and workmanship amounted £736, 14s, 1½d. The house is 40 by 70 feet in size. The walls are of good grit stone narrow jointed, with a concave plaster cornice under the eaves and continued around the sides. The inside shutters making two compartments when desired, are of polished white cedar and hold their lustre to this day. The floor is of yellow pine and shows little wear for more than a

century's use. The benches or seats are of softer wood, poplar, that yields readily to a sharp knife and the initiator. The feeling and experience of this individual as above pictured has doubting present and past times. We may less been that of countless others durably say that no more acceptable worship can be offered, for we have it unfolded unto us; that "God is a spirit, and that to worship Him, we must worship Him in spirit and in truth." In casting our eyes around, and within this historic building, let us call to mind those who helped to plan and finally did the work. Edward Good, grandfather of the late Pearson Good, did the carpenter work, and its condition now shows the builder to have been a master hand. Mathias Hutchinson laid the walls and their solid masonry, as now seen after defying the elements for much more than a century is a living witness that they were put there for no temporary purpose. They have already outlived many modern structures and will probably survive many that will be erected in the hereafter. We build hastily in the present day and do not look forward for future wants. Mathias Hutchinson was grandfather to the late Ann J. Paxson and a man of much more than ordinary mark. He came up from the Falls in 1765 and claims the hand of Elizabeth Bye one of Buckinghams fairest daughters, which he held safely until they made a final union of both heart and hand. He seldom failed in anything he undertook, was a man of many parts, and, if need be, turn his hand to diplomacy. A little incident, related to me as having occurred, by the late Joseph Fell, will serve as an illustration: When the meeting house was about completed, and turned over to the committee he desired that the initials of his name, (M. H.) as builder might be placed in the gable wall. Friends thought this savored somewhat of the monumental, and the request was denied. Matters thus rested for a time, or until he bethought of another plan to accomplish his purpose. Accordingly one day he inquired, very innocently not doubt if the initials "M. H." which would represent Meeting-house, had not better be placed in the gable end. To this the committee readily assented, not seeing the point, that "M. H." which would represent Meeting-house, had not better be placed in the gable end. To this the committee readily assented, not seeing the point that "M. H." represented Mathias Hutchinson the builder. The lineage of Ann J. Paxson was as fully marked on the paternal side. Her grandfather William Johnson came over from Ireland in early manhood, his motive for the change may perhaps be explained by the motto on the family coat of arms: "Ubi Libertas, Ibi Patria." He may have seen, even then, the cloud that overshadowed his beloved native land, and possibly discerned in prophetic vision her subsequent fearful struggle with oppression and power. He was a thoroughly educated and scholarly man as his many writings and lectures left behind fully attest.



This hasty sketch of Ann J. Paxson would be incomplete without some mention of her partner and companion on life's pathway. Thomas Paxson, from Abington, Montomey Co., made frequent visits in the early spring time and summer of 1817 to the hospitable mansion of Samuel and Martha Johnson whereat Horace and Fannie Broadhurst now reside, and his visits became frequent and prolonged. And this is laid at the door of Ann Johnson a member of the family visited whose rare intellectual endowments and other characteristics of the true woman were well calculated to captivate. The friendship thus formed resulted finally in his asking her hand, a very proper thing no doubt, and it seems, it was not withheld, for we find that while the mountain yet held its autumnal shades of rich beauty in changing leaf the fitting vows of love and constancy were spoken within these walls, that united them for their future pathway on life's journey. The first year of their married life was spent at his father's near Abington meeting, but in 1819 they moved to the farm adjoining this meeting's property on the west. Thomas Paxson, thus early in life took an immediate and deep interest in this meeting, was chosen clerk soon thereafter and finally as Elder, which position he held at the time of his death. He took an important part in all business meetings, and upon committees where ripe judgment was needed his name was found. He was a strict disciplinarian and held closely to the time honored practices and discipline of the society. In the matter of dress and address now much lost sight of he adhered closely to that of early Friend, and from youth upward and through life no deviation was made therefrom. "He was always known by the garb he wore."

Thomas Paxson died on the nineteenth of fourth month, 1881, in the eighty-eighth year of his age, and his wife on the twenty-first of third month, 1883, in her ninety-second year. They were buried in the yard belonging to this meeting, where rest my ancestors for several generations. They died as they had lived, consistent members of that excellent society, the society of Friends. The Master's summons found them with their loins girt, their staff in their hands, and their lamp burning. The memory of good parents should always be cherished. The influence of good lives cannot be too long perpetuated. It strengthens those who, following in their footsteps, strive to emulate their virtues. Having thus given some account of the present meeting-house and the two former ones which were located in the grave yard, let us retrace our steps and go backward to the first organization of the meeting in 1720. The first clerk was Thomas Canby. He came from Thorn, Yorkshire, England, and reached Bucks county in 1683, in company with his uncle and guardian, Henry Baker. At that time he was a youth of sixteen and is supposed to have had little means at his disposal. We are led to this belief from the fact of his indenture to serve a number of years to pay his passage

over. The following extract taken from the minutes of Bucks Quarterly meeting of Friends held at the house of Richard Hough, the 5th of the 6th-month, 1885: "Henry Baker hath brought in an account of disbursements about the bringing of Thomas Canby into this country, and they both, viz.: Henry Baker and Thomas Canby, have referred the length of time the said Thomas Canby shall serve the said Henry Baker for the said charge and his passage, and it is the agreement and judgment of this meeting that the said Thomas Canby shall serve the said Henry Baker five years from this day, and at the expiration of said term, the said Henry Baker shall allow the said Thomas Canby apparel and corn and what other things are allowed by law to minors so brought over, and that the indenture shall accordingly be drawn and sealed by each party, to which judgment both parties declare their satisfaction."

At the expiration of this term, which to our view now would seem largely in excess of any sum needed for one passage of a boy from England to Pennsylvania, Young Canby settled at Abington, Montgomery county, and in 1693 married Sarah Jarvis, and after a few years moved to Buckingham in our county, and purchased a farm on the Durham road, a short distance below Centreville, supposed to be the same premises now occupied by Joseph Anderson. His first wife died here in April, 1708, and in June, 1709, he married Mary, daughter of Evan Oliver, who came from Radnorshire, in Wales. She died, however, early in 1721, and shortly thereafter Canby located on what is now known as the Stavely homestead over the line in Solebury. Tials and names of some of our ancestors as now seen thereon call to mind those youths who took little stock in the sermons. The writer is not supposed to have taken any part in cutting those symbols.

The outer doors are hung with heavy strap hinges which formerly, and perhaps now, emit a peculiar sound when opened. They sang the same tune one hundred years ago. The high seats look solemn like and seem to say, we were filled the latter part of the last century. The two great wood stoves that warmed the worshippers would the scales at well nigh a ton, have long since been supplanted with stove burning anthracite coal. What has become of the old castings I am unable to say, probably gone to some foundry and melted up as old iron. What relic of the olden time would they now be, and hunted up for our historical society. The antiquarian can see where a bullet has pierced the partition, grazed the window jamb and made its way outward. It was fine some time during the Revolution. The Monthly Meeting in the 12th-month, 1777, was held in Thomas Ellicott blacksmith shop, on account of the house being occupied by the soldiers as a hospital. First-day meetings were however continued there, the sick being kept in one end while the other end was put in order for worship.



the soldiers who sat in meeting with their muskets stacked near the door.

The old horse blocks yet standing call to mind the day when all the worshippers came either on horseback or on foot, while two long rows of stables served for the horses. There were no carriage sheds there 100 years ago. The ancient graveyard as also the strangers and soldiers upon the turnpike just before entering the meeting ground from the top of the hill are objects of interest. When the hill was graded and cut down in making the turnpike the bones of some poor fellow was unearthed, and I was one of those who dug another grave in a more secure place. And here too are also found some of the old oaks that have a history and growth of perhaps two centuries. Could they but speak they would tell us that in their young days the eagle and wild deer were their companions, that the Lenni Lenape and other tribes passed near them on their way to the great spring. When they passed away the pale faces came and cleared the forests, made roads, built bridges, mills and dwellings, but they too have gone by generations to lie down within their sight. They have watched over their trust, withstood the tempest howling through them, received the lightning's stroke that left the house unharmed! But their destiny is nearly fulfilled. At their birth, near two centuries ago, they were awakened by the bursting of an acorn's shell, and they saw the bright sun rise in the mountain pass. To-day they see the black smoke curling from the iron horse as he rolls through our beautiful valley, bringing congenial spirits to our many homes of culture and refinement.

What hallowed memories are called to mind as the eye rests upon these seats so long filled by a most worthy class of men and women who so faithfully upheld the standard of Christianity in times long gone. It was not man alone, but woman that did her full share in the good work. You will observe that I adhere to the old and time honored name of woman as distinguishing her as the mother of all living. There is the highest authority for so doing, for we find when Adam was in a deep sleep the Lord took one of his ribs from which he made a "woman." And he further said "she shall be called woman." And yet latter on it was a "woman" of Samaria that had a little chat with her Lord and Master when she came to draw water from the well in Sychar's vale, as to the value of the waters thereof and the waters of everlasting life vouchsafed unto her. There is no mention anywhere of our Saviour having an interview with any "lady" of Samaria. Yet withal it must be accepted that every good and true woman is a lady, as is recognized by the world at large.

There has been little preaching in this house for a long time, but an occasional instructive discourse is heard. In the main, however, the worship has been of a meditative and spiritual character, and this may be aptly illustrated in a few lines, giving the

views and feelings of one at least within these walls, a year or more ago. He writes:

"I have been to Quaker meeting, and shall go again;  
It was so quiet and so neat, so simple and so plain;  
The angels seemed to gather there, from off the other shore,  
And fold their wings in quietness, as though they'd been before.  
There was no high priced organ there, no oostly singing choir,  
To help you raise your thoughts to God, and holiness inspire;  
But sitting still in silence, we seemed to feel and know  
The still small voice that entered in and told the way to go.  
The walls were free from paintings and costly works of art,  
That in our modern churches seem to play so large a part;  
For it seems they each endeavor to please the eye of man,  
And love all thoughts of plainness in every church they plan.  
There was no bustle, noise, or stir, as each one took his seat,  
But silence settled over all, not solemn, but so sweet,  
As each one in his quiet way implored for strength to know  
The right from wrong in everything, and asked the way to go.  
It seemed when I was there, so peaceful and so still,  
That I was in God's presence, and there to do His will;  
The simple, peaceful, quiet did more to move my heart  
Than any worship yet had done, with all its show and art."

He parted with this property and we next find him at what was then called Heatn's mill on the great spring stream, near Newhope, and here late in 1722, he took unto himself a third wife, Jane Preston. He returned to Solebury, where he remained until his death, in 1742, aged 75 years.

He had 9 children by his first wife and 8 by the second. He fulfilled in a measure the Scriptural injunction to "multiply and fill the earth." Most of his children grew to man and womanhood, and intermarried with the Paxsons, Gillinghams, Elys, Prestons, Staplers, Smiths, Hamptons, Lacys, Hibbs, Wilsons, Shipleys, Johnsons, et al. without limit. Many of them were blessed with large families, and their descendants have spread their outstretched arms, not only over Bucks county, but the States of New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Ohio and Indiana and the far West claim to have numerous representatives from the Canby line who are esteemed as their most valued citizens. The name is not common at the present day but this may be accounted for from the fact that twelve of the family were girls, and as they had a fashion, then as now, of changing their name in early womanhood, as good opportunity presented, itself, the Canby name was lost. Not so the blood. It is carried down the stream of time, and however, much of the original is lost, a proportionate quantity still remains, and the pulse will register its ebb and flow to



the latest generations. The late Thomas Paxson, of Buckingham, has left on record an incident connected with his grandmother, Jane Canby, daughter of Thomas Canby, who married Thomas Paxson the elder and lived on what is now the Johnson estate a short distance above Centre Bridge; "When travelling on horseback to Friends' meeting at Buckingham, observing a small cedar bush by the roadside, dismounted, and pulling it gently from the earth, resumed her seat in the saddle, and arriving early at the meeting-house, procured a fire shovel and planted the bush at the grave of her young child that had been buried a few days previous." The tree grew to vast proportions, and as it was for a long time, the only one in the yard, attracted much attention, and its history is known to many. It stood in the southern end of the yard and must have been much more than one hundred years old when a heavy storm uprooted it many years ago. A portion of the trunk is yet to be seen, as also a small stone, that marks the site of the grave. General Davis, in his history of Bucks county, relates the following incident: "Tradition tells the story that on one occasion, Lydia, the youngest daughter of Thomas Canby, a small but active child, mounted the spirited horse of Thomas Watson, while he was on a visit to her father. A noise at the door called them out and they found the girl astride the animal, with his head turned homeward. Mr. Watson exclaimed, 'the poor child will be killed,' to which Canby replied, 'if thee will risk thy horse I will risk my child.' The horse and child reached Mr. Watson's near Bushington, he white with foam, but gentle, when Lydia turned his head and rode back to her fathers. This must have occurred when Canby's lived at the now Anderson place, below Centreville, and as Lydia was the youngest child, many of the 17 children were probably born there. Mr. Watson owned the large estate near Bushington now held by the Cox family. Thomas Canby was far more than an ordinary man, and possessed a rare combination of the best elements of our nature, and his name and character did much to mould society for a higher standard of excellence, not only in the society, but in the world at large.

We have thus far narrated briefly some of the events occurring in the first century of the society history. To cover all of interest, would swell this paper to a volume. Society was not constituted then as now. The present generation have little idea of the work and labor required at the hands of early Friends. A large membership, widely scattered, made a laborious work to look after the erring ones, and scarcely a month passed that some one was not brought to the attention of the meeting. Outgoings in marriage, as it was called, wherein both were not members, attending places of diversion and amusements, with many other acts not in accord with the best teaching of Friends.

The subject of temperance claimed early attention, and as a society were

first to take a stand and banish intoxicating liquors from the harvest field. This was for a time thought to be a great innovation, and many Friends suffered some inconvenience in gathering in their harvests. In making this advancement in the good work, they merely made one step forward. As an instance, a friend was dealt with "for taking strong drink to excess," but the committee visiting failed to state what quantity could be taken before reaching the line of "excess." They reached a higher plane later on, and considered that its use in any measure as a beverage was in "excess."

The testimony of Friends in regard to war was a most difficult one to maintain, and bore heavily upon them. They held that wars and fightings were in accord with the precepts of the blessed Messiah, then the teachings of George Fox and William Penn were vain. During the war of the Revolution they took no active part, but in a general way were loyal to the King, and were content "to endure the ills we have than fly to those we know not of." On this account many were thrown into prison, because they could not for conscience sake take the test or affirmation of allegiance and abjuration, or comply with the requisitions as directed by the act of assembly. For this reason in 1778 John Hollingsworth, Thomas Buckman, Charles Dingee, James Smith, Stephen Howell, and Joshua Bennet, all members of this meeting were confined in the Lancaster jail. Nicholas Wain, a prominent Friend whose history may be known to many of us, issued an address to the different meetings, wherein Friends were encouraged to bear with their sufferings for conscience sake, and remember the promise given by the blessed Messiah to his apostles: "Lo I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

We have no record of the length of time the persons mentioned above suffered in prison, and were separated from their families. Had I been one of them I would have penciled upon the walls of my cell before leaving, the following:

"High walls and huge, the body may  
confine;  
And iron grates obstruct the prisoner's  
gaze,  
And massive bolts may baffle his de-  
sign,  
And keepers vigilant watch his devious  
ways;  
Yet spurns the immortal mind this base  
control,  
No chains can bind it soars from pole  
to pole,  
And in a flash from earth to Heaven it  
goes;  
'Tis up before the sun roaming afar,  
And in it watches wearys every star."

After years of suffering and privation the clouds that had so long o'ershadowed our beloved land and gave gloom and forebodings for the future rolled away, and the dove of peace came with her emblems of love and joy. This gave an opportunity to repair the waste places in Zion occasioned by the war, and an era of prosperity dawned which carried Friends onward well nigh half a century. But while resting in apparent security they were confronted later on what proved to be far more reaching



than the war or any calamities they had hitherto known, and culminated in a separation, or what is known as the division. While Friends were liberal in their views and allowed wide scope of thought and action, it finally led to a great divergence, and the harmony of the meetings were much disturbed. The small seeds of discontent soon took root and grew, and the harvest was one of discord. Elias Hicks a very prominent minister had much to do with bringing about this crisis and but for whom the storm might have been averted, for a time at least. Friend Hicks was born of Quaker parents, in Hempstead, Long Island, on the 19th of March, 1748. He had little school education but worked on a farm during his boyhood. Early religious impressions led him into the ministry and at the age of 21 years his mission commenced. He visited Philadelphia Yearly meeting in 1827 and most of the meetings comprising it. He spoke with great force and power, and stirred the society to its inmost depths. His teachings were bold and aggressive. He broadened anew the avenues to thought and plowed deep furrows through old seed fields of opinion. He addressed a very large assembly in this house in 1827, wherein he called the attention of Friends to "the light within," that while the Scriptures were valuable and instructive there were other guidances given man beside the written law, that innate principle, that divine monitor that has been with man from the beginning, and will continue until life's pilgrimage is ended. That this light within is not of man or his teachings, but is born of God and implanted in the breast of every one, no matter what his condition or outward surroundings; that in all countries and all climes, wherever mankind are found there will be implanted this Heavenly principle, differing only in degree as its admonitions are heeded, that the untored children of the wilderness are not insensible to its divine influence, and this must have been through some other instrumentality than the scriptures which they had never seen. And this may aptly be illustrated by the Indian maiden in her reply to the Missionary, who sought to convert her to his faith and mode of worship. Stretching her bared arm Heavenward she answered:

"God speaketh afar in the forest and  
says behold in the woodland so  
wild  
With its Heaven arched aisle, the true  
church of my child."

Friend Hicks further boldly proclaimed that he had no new gospel to preach other than taught by the Apostles of old, nor any other foundation to lay than that already laid down by our forefathers, even "Christ within the hope of glory, the power of God and the wisdom of God," neither did he have any discipline to propose other than that we already possess; but that high above and over all the great truth should be known that "God alone is the sovereign Lord of conscience," and that with this unalien-

able right, no power, civil or ecclesiastical should ever interfere. That this blessed liberty was amply enjoyed among Friends, and through faithfulness, not speculative opinions, but to the light of Christ within. That this blessed influence is a wall of defence on the right hand and on the left, protecting all, even the weakest in the flock, and that within this sacred enclosure our rights and privileges repose, as in the bosom of society in perfect security. This is substantially the text of his sermon in this house in 1827. A number of Friends, however, took exceptions to the main body of the discourse and alleged that while he admitted that the Scriptures were useful as instruction and a saving grace they should not be placed higher than the teachings of the Holy Spirit revealed unto the heart of man. At this late day, its hard to learn the true inwardness of the situation, as most, if not all of those who took an active part therein, have crossed the river dividing the finite from the infinite. But the result is known. The cross is reached and the storm burst with all its fury. The dove of harmony that had so long hovered o'er them fled afar, and folded her wings closely, and peace itself escaped to the skies and sought shelter from the tempest.

A separation of this formerly harmonious and happy people was made without any delay, and two monthly meetings were now in session, as far apart in unity as the poles, yet each claiming the guidance and protection of the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world, and who said unto His Disciples, "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another as I have loved you." Under existing circumstances they must have failed in the observance of this Commandment. In the world at large, for a time at least, the two branches as thus divided were known as Hicksites and Orthodox. The former, being largely in the majority held the meeting house as they did most, if not all, in Bucks county. The minority party held their meetings at the house of Benjamin and Sarah Gillingham at the intersection of upper York and Street roads, until 1830, when their present house was built, and in which they now worship. At this day it must seem surpassing strange to us that a house with the dimensions of this, with dividing shutters making two large apartments, could not have accommodated the two wings of division. But then at that time party spirit ran high and they were not content to worship under one roof.

Early in 1829, a committee was appointed relative to an amicable adjustment of property, with those individuals who had separated themselves from this meeting, reported they have communication to those Friends the object in view, and have received for answer, "that they cannot meet us in the subject proposed." What the basis of this proposition was cannot now be learned, but presumably it was that those holding the old meeting house



and grounds pay over to those who had left them, a sum proportionate to their numbers at the time of separation. The animosities then engendered died away with the generation taking an active part therein, and a fraternal feeling now happily exists between the two divisions. In nearing the close of this brief sketch of the meeting's doings we must not omit to make mention of happenings that may be of much interest to our fair young friends who may in the near or distant future contemplate a change in the pathway on life's journey. It is said: "What has been may be done," and I will state for their encouragement, that within these walls and the two former meeting houses, there were woven 730 silken ties that bound two willing hearts, and the fitting vows of love and constancy were spoken that marked out a life line of duty.

"And lives divergent until then  
Unite and open not again."

There must have been a huge heap of silk to weave from and the length of the ties is not known at present, but presumably long enough to encircle the pair. I am sorry to say, however, that two or more were long enough to have some hard knots tied in them by the formerly happy pairs, ere many years had marked their marital career. One instance was brought to my notice from the fact that my parents were of a committee to visit a pair who had got estranged and made two households where only one should have been. By skillful diplomacy the silken tie that had been knotted was made loose and a second reunion entered into, but with what measure of success I am unable to say, perhaps until the death of the wife many years ago. Her partner yet lives, his years ranging far up into the nineties. I forbear to give names, but he may be found within an hour's ride from this place. He is communicative and glad to see old friends. But the most memorable event in the matrimonial line, was in the year 1824, when four couples entered into hymens bonds the same day and same hour. They were John Wilson and Mary Fell, Daniel Smith and Hannah Betts, Samuel Eastburn and Mary Carver, David Lewis and Ann Saul. The figure 4 comes in here conspicuous, 4 marriages, in 4th-month, 4th day of the week, in 1824. We do not know that the visit of Lafayette to this country this same year had anything to do with hastening up so many nuptials upon the same day, but they may have had in their mind's eye a bridal tour to witness Lafayette's triumphal tour through Philadelphia or Trenton.

Our esteemed friend, the late Daniel Smith, far outlived all his contemporaries in marriage. The records of this meeting show a greater number of marriages than any in the Quarter, not excepting the Falls, the parent meeting. This may be accounted for from the fact that for a period of 100 years or more, it was the largest Monthly Meeting in the Quarter, and consequently more young people to invest their all in the matrimonial bond lot-

tery. From the length this paper has already reached we are warned that it should come to a close. In conclusion we may safely say, without danger of contradiction, that no Monthly Meeting in Bucks Quarter has made such a record for good as this. Although much thinned out in membership, owing in a measure to other denominations of Christians in our midst, which were not here formerly, but those members with intercourse with Friends have imbibed many of the essential elements of Quakerism and with Friends are now doing good work in the evangelical world.

The meeting was fortunate in its early history in having a man of sterling integrity as Thomas Canby as clerk and standard bearer. As he passed away others arose up from time to time and the good work was carried on well nigh two centuries, and to have been preserved thus long must have been partakers of the comforting promises to the Church of Israel as recorded by the Prophet Isaiah: "Fear not, for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name, thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters I will be with thee, and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee, when thou walkest through the fire thou shall not be burned, neither shall the flames kindle upon thee." What the future of this meeting will reveal is not for us to know, but for the increased interest of late, coupled with the good work of the "Young Friends' Association," may we not believe that it will be in the future as in the past, "A hiding place for the wind, a covert from the tempest, as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a mighty rock in a weary land."

From, *Enterprise* .....

*Newtown Jn* .....

Date, *June 11 1898* .....

#### HISTORY OF NEWTOWN.

BY H. K. EYRE.

The real history of Newtown begins with the townstead, which was laid out as soon as settlers began to come to the Neshaminy and pick out their farms. The townstead was a piece of land about a mile square, and in a map made under the direction of Penn in 1684, we find that it was laid out and the land in it belonged to fifteen people who had bought adjacent tracts, but these lots did not include that part of the town known as the common. This was a rectangular piece of land on both sides of the creek between State and Sycamore



feet, and extended from Frost Lane on the North to the northern boundary of Dr. Heston's lot on the South and contained a little over 40½ acres. This common gave the settlers free use of the creek and the springs near it. It was surveyed and granted to three men who were to take charge of it for the benefit of themselves and the other inhabitants of the town, but these men all died before the title had been fully made, then nothing was done with it until 1727, when ten of the land owners in the townstead agreed to purchase it and divide it equally among themselves as it best suited them, and make streets through it. But in 1796 it was put up at public sale, the lots south of Washington avenue on State street were sold for fees, while those north of Washington avenue and those on Sycamore street were sold on ground rents, but few of these ever had any rent paid on them and soon came back to the trustees, who sold them again, and by an agreement ⅓ of the money from these sales went to the academy then in Newtown, ⅓ to the schools founded or to be founded in the township and the remaining ⅓ was to be used in the town as the trustees thought best. This was about the end of the common, for it soon began to be built up and now contains some of the principal business places of our town.

In 1725 when Newtown was made the county seat, there were only a few log cabins in the town, but the people soon began to build better houses and hotels for the men that came here during court. The hotels or inns are about the oldest buildings that are now standing in the town. The oldest of these is on the eastern side of State street between Centre avenue and Mercer street, and was known as the "Bird-in-Hand" and was built about 1726 or '28. The next to be built was Court Inn on the southeast corner of Centre avenue and Court street, and is now used as a confectionery store. The next one to be built was the "Red Lion Inn" or what is now known as the Brick Hotel, although it was not nearly so large then as it is now, for it originally consisted of the eastern half and was only two stories high. It was thought the bricks used in it were imported from England, but it is now known that they were made in the eastern part of town near Washington avenue. There were also several other hotels in use while the court was held here. One of them "The Temperance House," was built by Andrew McMinn, who kept school here for awhile.

This was the first school in Newtown and opened about 1773 or '74. He afterward sold this place and moved across the street to a log cabin and continued his school here. In the rear of the cabin was a stone quarry and if any one came for a load of stone "Andy" would lock the scholars in the room and go out to help put on the load. The next school of any importance was the academy, a large three story stone building, which was built in 1798. Here school was held for about eighty-five years.

In 1829 a Frenchman by the name of

Archambault bought the Brick Hotel. He made great improvements on it by building another story on the part then standing and putting a two story extension on the west end. He was an enterprising man and had as many as ninety boarders at a time. He soon bought about fifteen acres of land between State and Congress streets and north of Washington avenue. He opened what is now Liberty street, but named it Napoleon street in honor of the emperor who was a great friend of Archambault. He was educated in a French school and made a special study of horses, and served one year in Napoleon's army, and stayed with him one year at St. Helena. He had to leave there so he came to America as he had no interest in France since the emperor was not there. He landed in New York and drifted around until he reached Newtown, where he started as a tinsmith, but soon bought the Temperance House, then the Brick Hotel. It was while he owned the Brick Hotel that a man by the name of Plummer was preaching a new doctrine in the lower end of this county, and occasionally held meetings in Newtown. For awhile they were held in the academy, but as that was under Presbyterian rule the doors were soon closed against him, then Archambault invited the Plummerites to his house but it was too small, so they raised money and built a hall on land given by Archambault, on condition that anyone who wanted to preach there without pay could have the hall free. This hall was torn down and the present one built on the same ground in 1883 on the same conditions.

The Court was moved to Newtown from Bristol in 1725. The Court House was on Court street, in the rear of where the library now stands. The first floor was used as a court room, while the second was used for jury rooms. In this building the court was held for eighty-eight years—until 1813.

The first jail was erected where Hellyer's drug store now stands, but was too small, and another was built where Dr. Crewitt now lives. Directly west of the Court House and south of this building was erected a small stone building, with walls two feet thick and a roof one foot thick. This building was used for the storage of all documents. It soon became too small and a stone building was erected across the street. This building had heavy walls and iron shutters and gratings at the windows.

The Newtown Library Company was organized in 1760 at Court Inn, with twenty-seven members, who each paid £1 as dues. With this money sixty-two volumes were bought; of these twenty were history. The books were kept at Court Inn for a short

time, but the librarian moved from town and the books were taken and kept at the house of David Twining, who lived on the farm now owned by Cyrus T. Vanartsdalen. Here they were kept until 1788, when they were moved to the Court House. Between 1774 and 1783 no meetings of the Library Company were held, and at the end of this



time the old members had lost most of their interest and had appointed a committee to sell the books, but the rising generation proposed to come in with the old members and increase the number of volumes; this they did, and in 1791 the library had 823 volumes. The books were kept at the Court House for several years, then they were moved to a small frame building on Court street, erected on a lot given by the Hickses. The company was incorporated in 1789, and in 1882 moved to the pretty little brick building on Court street and Centre avenue. The number of books has steadily increased until they now have over 4000 volumes in the library.

Of the six churches in Newtown the Presbyterian is the oldest and the only one of any historic value. It was built in 1769, but before this time they had a small frame building about half a mile west of town. Around this building was a graveyard, and among the thick growth can still be seen several marble slabs. After the Battle of Trenton several Hessian prisoners were kept in the church. One of them is supposed to have written the following lines:

"In times of war, and long before,  
God and the soldier the people did adore;  
But war is over, and all things righted,  
God is forgot and the soldier slighted."

This verse remained on the wall until a few years ago, when it was painted over.

Another place of interest in Revolutionary times is the Alexander German house, which was used by Washington as his headquarters about the time of the Battle of Trenton.

And now Newtown, which is one of the oldest in the country, can justly be proud, for it has advanced with the times and taken up the improvements as they came, and to-day we can truly say it is one of the prettiest, and has as many improvements as any town of its size in the State.

From,

*Intelligencer*  
*Doylstown Pa*

Date,

*June 13 1898*

## MUSICAL STONES.

Eleventh Annual Meeting of the  
Buckwampun.

## PROGRAM OF HISTORICAL PAPERS

The Historians of the Upper End of  
Bucks County Assemble in the  
Grove Near the Famed Ringing  
Rocks of Nockamixon—A Large  
Crowd Listens to the Exercises.

For the second time in the history of the organization the Buckwampun Historical and Literary Association met at the Ringing Rocks near Bridgeton on Saturday. It was the occasion of the eleventh annual meeting of the association that has done such excellent work in historical research for the upper part of Bucks county. The site is one of the three deposits of phonolitic rocks in Pennsylvania which emit clear, metallic bell-like tones when struck with a hammer, and which have been objects of much research by geologists and archaeologists as well as places of curiosity, wonder, admiration and pleasure to the public generally. The other deposits of like phonolitic rocks are located one at Stony Garden, at the foot of Haycock Mountain, in Haycock township, and the third near Pottstown, Montgomery county. The deposit near Bridgeton covers between four and five acres and is perfectly bare of vegetation, presenting a scene of desolation and yet of grand sublimity as one gazes upon mighty boulders having the appearance of having been piled up by some giant hand. The scene is one for which the curiosity seeker feels well repaid for the tiresome journey over rocks and up narrow paths, slipping, sliding and falling, as he attempts to reach the rugged garden spot of nature where sweet melodious sounds are made to ring forth from the rocks themselves.

The ringing rocks are situated 550 feet above tide water, are of Mesozoic formation, of a basaltic nature and of volcanic origin. The eruptive exposure is over half a mile in extent and is supposed to have taken place at a late subdivision of the Mesozoic age. The bottom of this eruptive deposit is supposed to rest upon archaen rocks, at a depth of 5000 to 16,000 feet below the surface, and as one gazes down the interstices between the boulders he wonders where the bottom is and what is to be found there.

The ringing rocks, however, are not the only natural curiosity that the admirer of nature takes delight in. A short distance away, dashing down a rugged, picturesque ravine, is a brook, small in summer but swollen to large proportions in the spring, which flows over the largest natural falls in Bucks county. There is a perpendicular fall.



3 feet, the bed being of smooth, solid rock, and at its base the rocky walls of the ravine rise almost perpendicular. At the bottom of the falls grow several large hemlock trees, a variety not found in Haycock.

The fame of the location for the meeting and the popularity of the annual gatherings of the association attracted about 800 persons to the spot on Saturday, who after visiting the natural curiosities in the vicinity gathered about the speakers' stand under the noble trees among the rocks that were scattered for some distance by the convulsion of nature in bygone ages.

The programme of exercises for the eleventh annual meeting was shorter than usual but the papers presented were exceedingly interesting and well written.

The exercises were opened with music by three young girls, Katie Stover, Leona Wirth and Florence Bean, of Riegelsville, the latter accompanying the singing with the autoharp. The annual address was delivered by Hon. D. E. Hindenach, of Durham, the president of the association, who said:

"Although the National horizon is overcast with dark clouds of dire foreboding and the rattle of musketry and the booming of cannon is heard, as it were, reverberating among the rugged hills and mountains of the 'Flower of the Antillis,' and from every hillside and valley, from busy workshops and thronging marts and peaceful, loving homes, brave and loyal men have gone forth and have written on the sands their religious and political differences of the past and are hurrying to the front to the end that the glorious old flag that waved triumphantly over our cradles shall continue to wave victoriously over our graves, and that government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth, and that the principles involved in the same shall be propagated and thus become the foundation of a new government for our neighbors, conceived in liberty and destined to elevate and enlighten a down-trodden and oppressed people, we, the members of the association, with hearts moved with patriotic emotion, propose, as I take it, to lay aside the contemplation of the burning question of the hour and thus enable our minds to revel in the local history of men and women in this and surrounding localities, who, in their humble way have left unmistakable foot prints on the sands of time. We are living in an era of time remarkable for historical events, whose influences are far-reaching in their effects and destined to pass down the corridor of time with all their force and power to future generations yet unborn.

Indeed, I believe, unless all signs shall fail, that the closing scenes of the nineteenth century will present to the eyes of the civilized world a degree of development and expansion along the glorious lines of man's achievement, completely overshadowing that of any decade in the past.

The first ten years of our existence as an association have passed by into dim past and I can not do other-

wise than commend the impetus it has given to enthusiastic work along the line of poetry, history and scientific investigation, without even interfering with other avocations in life. It has doubtless not only been a source of delight to each one connected with the association, to have been thus engaged but such employment of the mind has probably exercised a beneficial influence by stimulating and broadening the intellect, which otherwise, might have withered in the daily traffic of the world and by fostering research and cultivating the power of observation and thus deepening the verdure of youthful association.

"Having rounded out a decade of earnest and sincere work it seems to me to be entirely fitting and proper at this time to cast a brief retrospective glance at our active little giant, Buckwampun, which through the persistent efforts of the well-known historian, William J. Buck, first evolved out of chaos in the fall of 1885. Two years thereafter, we find it full fledged, vigorous and aggressive and holding its first annual meeting on June 14, 1888, on the historic heights of 'Buckwampun,' in Springfield township, Bucks county, Pa., with the following officers and essayists: President, C. E. Hindenach; secretary, Charles Laubach; essayists, Lizzie Mills, Charles Laubach, C. E. Hindenach, W. J. Buck, Margaret J. Moffit, Frank Clark, John A. Ruth, E. P. Richards, Louis Sigafos, Samuel Steckel, P. H. Barron, Otis Seedich, J. F. Stover, Ida Laubach and Emily Boyer. The committee of arrangements consisted of Jonas W. Swope, Newton F. Stover, Aaron Laubach, Tilghman Barron and W. I. Long. The music was directed by E. P. Laubach.

"The second meeting was held on Bucher Hill, June 8, 1889, with eleven essayists and an attendance of 250; the third at Stony Garden, June 9, 1890, with fourteen essayists and an attendance of 500; the fourth at Springtown, June 10, 1891, with ten essayists and an attendance of 600; the fifth at Bucks-ville, June 11, 1892, with ten essayists and an attendance of 800; the sixth at Ringing Rocks June 10, 1893, with twelve essayists and an attendance of 1200; the seventh at Applebachville, June 9, 1894, with thirteen essayists and fourteen essayists and an attendance of Durham June 15, 1895, with fourteen essayists and an attendance of 900; the ninth at Revere June 13, 1896, with thirteen essayists and an attendance of 500; and the tenth at Riegelsville June 9, 1897, with twelve essayists and an attendance of 1000.

"And now to this grand old forest, where trees rear their stately forms so majestically toward the heavens, to the rippling stream as it meanders along the shady nooks and grassy dells; to the vast fields of boulders yonder, capable of producing musical sounds that can not help but please and delight the enthusiastic admirer of nature; to the falling cascade that fills the mind with awe; aye, to everything grand, sublime and inspiring in nature, I welcome you confidently believing that your minds will be enriched by the literary and historical feast about to follow, and be-



speaking for you all the privilege and pleasure of attending many more meetings of this association."

The first paper presented was that by A. B. Haring, cashier of the Frenchtown National Bank, and the owner of the land upon which is located the ringing rocks, having purchased it from the Government in 1889 to preserve the deposit from the hands of vandals who proposed to blast the rocks for marketable purposes and thus destroy one of the three natural curiosities of their kind known to geologists. Mr. Haring is a lover of nature as was evidenced in the paper he read Saturday, on the subject of "Who Are Our Friends," which was a strong plea for the sparrow, the toad and various insects, which by the people generally are considered something of pests, but which by close study of their nature and mode of living he has found to be blessings to mankind. The paper, as well as all the others read before the association, will be published entire in subsequent numbers of the *Intelligencer*.

Miss Ida R. Fabian, of Revere, read a well-prepared paper on "The Weaver Graveyard." This almost forgotten burial place is situated in Tinicum township, close to the Nockamixon boundary. The first burial noted was that of John Baxter in 1744, who was born in 1659, and the last that of the wife of William Weaver in 1859.

Rev. O. H. Melchor, of Springtown, read a "Biographical Sketch of Rev. John L. Grant," the Presbyterian pastor of Durham church, which congregation was organized in 1742. The Germans constantly increased in the community and to a great extent displaced the English element, and in 1867 the Presbyterian services were discontinued.

William J. Buck, of Jenkintown, the historian of Bucks and Montgomery counties and the founder of Buckwampun Association, delivered an interesting address on "Fifty Years in Literature," being an autobiography, detailing many incidents of his school days at Stony Point and Doylestown Academy, and his labors in historical research.

A brief "History of Pleasant Valley," in Springfield township, showing evidence of much research and literary ability, was read by Miss Carrie S. Kulp, of Pleasant Valley.

Miss Laura Bean, of Riegelsville, presented a well-prepared article on "The Pennsylvania Palisades," which are situated along the Delaware river in Nockamixon township. Their steep, rugged sides rise almost perpendicular until they seem to almost touch the clouds, making almost perpetual twilight along the highway at their base.

Another grave subject was that of "The Durham Cemetery," presented by Miss Clara R. Laubach, of Riegelsville. This burial ground is of comparatively recent date, having been established 36 years ago, the charter having been recorded September 23, 1862.

The last paper was a "Sketch of the Ruth Family," written by Harvey F. Ruth, of Durham, and read by President Hindenach. The Ruths were among the early settlers in the vicinity, Henry Ruth having located in New Britain before 1728, and many descendants are still residing in Bucks and Montgomery counties.

It was decided to hold the twelfth meeting of the association at Stony Garden, at the foot of Haycock Mountain, the second Saturday in June, 1899.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown Pa*  
 Date, *July 1 - 1898*

## REV. JOHN L. GRANT.

### Early Presbyterianism in Durham Valley.

A Paper Read Before the Buckwampun Historical and Literary Association at Ringing Rocks; by Rev. O. H. Melchor, of Springtown, June 11, 1898.

Several years ago I was asked by the worthy and efficient secretary of the Buckwampun Historical and Literary Association to prepare for it sketches of the early preachers of Durham Union Church.

Last year the subject of my paper was Rev. Henry S. Miller, the second pastor of the Lutheran congregation of said church. At this time it was my purpose to present to you a sketch of the Rev. Samuel Stahr, the first Reformed pastor of this church, whose pastorate extended from the time this church was built, in 1812 to 1843. I have, however, decided to defer this subject for one year and to present to you to-day a sketch of a Presbyterian pastor of the Durham Union Church.

I do so principally to recall the fact that this church, now occupied only by the Reformed and Lutheran denominations, was not built and, at first, used by them exclusively. The first religious services held in Durham township, of which we have any record, were conducted in the school house connected with the iron works, in 1739, by supplies from the Presbytery of New Brunswick.

The Durham Presbyterian congregation was organized in 1742. The German Reformed was organized in 1790, and the Lutheran about the same time. In 1812 these three congregations united and built the Durham Union Church.

The Germans constantly increased in number, and to a great extent, displaced the English element in the community, and in 1867 the Presbyterian services were discontinued in the church. The last Presbyterian pastor was the Rev. John L. Grant, who is still remember-



ed by many in the community. He served the congregation from 1860 to 1865.

John L. Grant was born in Philadelphia, February 28, 1800. His boyhood and youth were devoted to careful study, and he became proficient in the languages, and when yet quite young became Professor of Latin and Greek in the Rev. Wylie Classical Institute. When eighteen years of age he professed his faith in Christ and connected with the Second Presbyterian church of Philadelphia. He felt called to the Gospel Ministry, and having pursued the course of study preparatory thereto he was graduated from the Theological Seminary at Princeton in 1826. In the following year, October 25, 1827, he was married to Miss Euphemia Dusen-berg, of New Hampton, N. J.

After graduating, he returned to Philadelphia, and at the request of a number of young men, he commenced preaching in Franklin Institute Hall. A congregation, consisting of male members only, was soon organized, and rapidly increased, consisting, in 1829, of five hundred members.

It is said that women were present at the service when the pastor's daughter was baptized.

About this time Rev. Grant began to hold services in an old "Fire House" that stood on the corner of Juniper and Race streets. Here a nucleus was formed, out of which grew the Eleventh Presbyterian Church, located on Vine street, near Thirteenth. He became pastor of this congregation in 1830 and continued until 1850. On the day of his installation forty young men from the Franklin Institute congregation united with the Vine Street church.

The twenty years spent here were years of successful work.

The church, with a seating capacity of 1500, was usually crowded at the regular services. The weekly prayer meetings were well attended. The piety and religious influence of the congregation made itself felt in that section of the city. Through its members, many Bibles and tracts were distributed, and prayer meetings held among the irreligious.

At the end of these twenty years his health failed, and he was obliged to resign the charge he had served so long and well.

Soon after he moved to Easton, where during ten years he occasionally supplied vacant congregations near by, and taught in the Collegiate Institute. A part of his work as teacher was to examine applicants for admission, in Latin and Greek. Among other applicants, on a certain occasion was one who has since become a noted member of a noted literary association. After taking him to his study and examining him thoroughly, true to his big heart and his honest convictions, he said: "Charles, I have examined you very carefully, and find much encouragement in your proficiency, and I can recommend you as a promising young man."

In 1860 he again entered the active ministry, becoming pastor of the congregations at Riegelsville and Dur-

ham, which he served for five years. He labored earnestly and effectively, but as intimated in the foregoing the Presbyterian pastors had to labor under great and growing disadvantages in this territory.

Eastern Pennsylvania seemed to be predestinated for the Dutch. The good old Dr. Andrews, of Doylestown, once good naturedly said to the writer, "You good Pennsylvania Dutch came and took possession, and the Presbyterian pastors had to follow their flocks to other pastures."

After the death of his wife he went to Camden, N. J., to spend the remainder of his life with his daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Garrison. Here he died on July 24, 1894. His remains rest in Locust Hill Cemetery, Philadelphia.

Thirty-three years have passed away since the close of Rev. Grant's ministry at Durham and Riegelsville, but there are still some who recall incidents that illustrate his character as a preacher and as a man. He was neither a prodigy nor a genius, although endowed with superior qualities of mind and heart. In his preaching, practical religion and orthodox doctrine were quaintly blended with wit and humor. It was as natural for him to move his audience to smiles as to tears. He was a man of determined purpose; whatever he did, he did with an energy that insured success. He was self-possessed, bold, fearless and generous. In him were happily blended true dignity and true humility. He was as wont to shake hands and enter into conversation with the poorest and lowliest of his flock, as with the richest and most honorable. He also took interest in public affairs.

During the Civil War, when, according to the suggestion of the Secretary of War, home guard companies were formed, Rev. Grant, who was one of the most patriotic men of his time, suggested that public meetings should be held at Durham church and other places in the vicinity, to keep up a patriotic feeling in the neighborhood. The home guards always attended these meetings in a body, and were much encouraged by Rev. Grant's patriotic addresses.

On one occasion, after taking dinner nearby, he started with his host across a field to the place of meeting. In passing along, his silk stove-pipe hat came in contact with a fence stake, and off it went. He quickly picked it up with the remark "This goes to show that I'm no goose, for a goose always stoops, even when going through a barn door."

Once on a time he took dinner at a farm house. Instead of chicken, usually provided for preachers, roasted quail was served. When Mr. Grant was about to carve his bird, it slipped from his plate to the floor. With the remark, "I'm going after that quail, it will not get away from me in that way," he went under the table and secured his dinner.

In June, 1862, during the great freshet in the Delaware, our reverend brother had arranged for services at Durham. On his way to church he called on one of his parishoners, and found him at



work along the river securing his part of logs from the rising waters. The man was abashed, but the preacher said nothing. He, however, took in the situation and at the church delivered a thrilling sermon on the occurrence, exhorting all to save and provide for their families, even out of season, when necessity required it.

I have one recollection of Mr. Grant in which he stands out very vividly. About thirty-seven years ago a large Union Sunday School celebration was held at Fisherville, now Plumsteadville. Among the Sunday schools present was the Kintnersville school, of which I was a member. Rev. Grant was one of the many speakers on the platform. When he was called upon to speak, there came forward a medium-sized, well-set man, with a face lighted up with smiles, and a head crowned with beautiful white hair. He opened his remarks with a good natured poke at the expense of one of the other speakers, which provoked a hearty laugh, and he ended with pointed, earnest and impressive advice.

The head that then was crowned with silver, we can trust is crowned with glory now. "They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever."

## PLEASANT VALLEY.

### Sketch of the Pretty Little Village in Springfield.

A Paper Read Before the Buckwampun Historical and Literary Association at the Ringing Rocks, June 11, 1898, by Miss Carrie S. Kulp, of Pleasant Valley

In order to get a pretty full account of the history of Pleasant Valley and the surrounding country, we must go back one hundred and fifty years when this country was still under the tyrannical rule of England.

Then these highly cultivated farms were largely covered with timber and where one now sees large and substantial stone or frame buildings could then be seen small log buildings.

The village of Pleasant Valley, which now boasts of about seventy-five inhabitants, together with the surrounding country was then known by the name of "Schuckenhausen." There was however, no post office by that name, it being practically a wilderness with only a very small inhabitation.

The spot where the Springfield Union Church now stands was then occupied by a small log church known as the "Schuckenhausen Church." Ever since the building of this church, which was

possibly one-hundred and fifty years ago, people have been buried in the graveyard surrounding it.

Some of the tombstones are so old that the names and dates are quite illegible, while others bear no date at all.

Whenever there were services held in this church the people for miles around came, not as they go now, but on foot or on horseback, dressed in coarse linen and barefooted. Those that were a little more particular about their appearance took their shoes along and put them on when they got there.

Those living south of the church were obliged to pass the tavern, and it was no rare occasion for them to make a call there before going to the "house of worship;" nor did the lower class of people only stop, if they were classed at all, but the higher class and even the ministers.

This old church was replaced by a new one in 1816, and in 1872 the church that is still standing was built.

Possibly the oldest house still standing is the one now owned and occupied by W. Clinton Cressman located about one-eighth of a mile south of the village along the Bethlehem Road. The house has been altered several times and an addition built to it so that its age cannot be judged by its appearance. Only a few things remain to show that it was once a tavern. Among these is a part of the bar with the small opening, now a window, through which were handed the drinks.

The bar-room occupied the south end of the house and back of it was a small room known as the "guest chamber" into which the guests were ushered who came to seek lodging. This little room was located right in the center of the house and had therefore no window or door to the exterior. All the light it received came from the adjoining rooms, rendering it quite dark and uninviting as a sitting-room.

This house bore a number of old mottoes, one of them placed over the bar was, "Pay to-day and trust to-morrow." This house was quite a prominent stopping-place for the stages as they ran over the route between Philadelphia and Wilkesbarre, and it was here that General Lafayette spent several days on his way to Sun Inn, Bethlehem. He had been wounded at the Battle of Brandywine, and being worn out by his long journey, he spent a few days here in order to get rest.

The room in which he was quartered has recently been altered. The sheds belonging to the tavern extended along both sides of the road and were quite frequently filled. Business was kept up here during the Revolutionary War until towards the close, when Henry Eckel, the great-grandfather of Dr. J. J. Ott, and once a lieutenant in the army, bought the place and sank a tannery near the Cook's creek a few rods from the house.

He was one of the first men to begin the work of temperance reform, and there is quite an interesting story connected with the closing up of this old tavern.

When Mr. Eckel took possession of



the house he was careful to knock down all the old signboards and finding a barrel containing some "cherry bounce" in the cellar he emptied it into the gutter.

The pigs happened to come that way, ate the cherries and, of course, got drunk, as all pigs should who indulge in such vile "stuff."

Mr. Eckel carried on the tannery business quite successfully, making saddles and harness for the army, and was worth about \$90,000 when he died.

The tavern closed here was removed to the hill and opened on the place where it still stands. A new building takes the place of the first one which was built by John Brunner and altered by Peter Knechel.

Possibly the first store near the place was the one in the house now owned by Mrs. John Smith. This store was open during the time when most of the money in circulation was in large copper pennies and half pennies. Safes then were quite unknown and it was the custom to place all the money received during the day in large bread baskets, carry them upstairs and place them under the bed of the proprietor of the store for safe-keeping. And since the prices then were very high and the pennies large it required a number of baskets to keep them.

Later and during the time the tavern was in the valley a store was opened in an attachment to the same house on the south side, by Lewis Ott and David Spinner. It passed out of their hands to different owners and was finally closed up altogether and another one opened on the hill by Peter Knechel. This, too, passed through different owners until Isaac H. Shelley tore down the old building and put up a new one in the same place.

The first post office was in Lewis Ott's store and an uncle of Mrs. Charles B. Ott gave it the name it so well deserves. Since it was removed to the hill the name may not seem as appropriate, but it is hoped that in the course of a few years, when the Quakertown and Eastern Railroad Company will have finished its work, the village will spread until the entire valley is a part of the same.

The east side of Pleasant Valley is built on land originally belonging to two farms. The lower end of the village was a part of the farm owned by Jacob Smith, father of the late John Smith.

This farm comprised hundreds of acres to the east of Pleasant Valley and it was Jacob Smith who built the mill race, still in use. The upper east end side of the village is built on the farm originally owned by Jonas Cressman, later by George Cressman, while the west side is built on the farm owned by Jacob Frey, later by John Frey. The barn and dwelling house to this farm are still standing and are owned by Mrs. Hess.

One of the oldest houses in the immediate village, besides the farm house, is the one owned by Charles Mumbower.

In 1842 Charles B. Ott started a nursery in the valley and continued the

work until he died. The manufacture of molasses from sugar-cane, by Samuel Moyer and Eastburn Ott, was also carried on for a time.

The land owned by Dr. J. J. Ott holds an old burial ground, where about one hundred persons were buried in Revolutionary times. There is, however, no stone left to mark any of the graves. One of the tombstones may be found in the wall of the large arch bridge across the Cook's creek.

Another fact, not so closely connected with the history of Pleasant Valley, but interesting all the same, was the manufacture of flint arrow-heads. This was done about two and one-half miles northwest of Pleasant Valley, near what is now Passer. Three places may still be found, each near a strong stream of never-failing water. The theory for this is that the arrow-heads after having been rudely shaped were placed under water for the sides to be smoothed and the edges sharpened.

Indians are supposed to have lived in the vicinity of Pleasant Valley up to a very late date, and there are families still living near whose members have a large proportion of Indian blood running in their veins.

The Cook's creek, named after Captain Cook, is the principal creek, and it is supposed that before the timber was all cut down these streams were so large that shad abounded in them. It is supposed that the first school house in the vicinity of Pleasant Valley was a few rods south of the village, near the house now owned by Mrs. Smith. The school house was built during the eighteenth century, and about the beginning of the nineteenth another one was built near where Joseph Hawk's mill now stands.

The districts belonging to one school were then very large and the children were obliged to walk several miles. Later the districts was divided into two parts and the people of Pleasant Valley put up a log school house opposite the Springfield church. A stone building replaced the old log one, and now a new brick building fills the place. In 1843 the south end of the district put up a log school building on the farm now owned by Abraham G. Moyer. It received the name of Airy Grove Seminary, and Isaac Hunsberger taught the first school there. When the free school system was put into operation, Rev. A. R. Horn was appointed the first teacher.

When this log seminary was out of date a stone building was put up on the farm owned by Henry Moyer, and two years ago a new brick building took its place.

Such is the history of Pleasant Valley. Its growth has been slow and sure, but since "whatever is worth doing is worth doing well" we must give to its founders the credit for having followed that old maxim to the letter. If we could see the place as it looked one hundred and fifty years ago and compare it with that of to-day we would see what a wonderful change has taken place.

Truly a large city having all the improvements and luxuries of life



might have grown up during this time, but grander far than all these is the picture nature herself opens to us. Since by the aid of human hands these hillsides, once clothed in forests were converted into fields of waving grain, which the honest farmer harvests for himself and others dependent upon him. And we trust that when the commercial facilities will have improved, as we know they will, the little village of Pleasant Valley, after having struggled on with so many inconveniences, will take a long stride onward and take its place with the rest.

From, *Enterprise*  
*Newtown*  
 Date, *July 12 - 1898*

#### CONCERNING THE LATE HENRY WOODMAN.

At a recent meeting of the Norristown Friends' Association, Ellwood Roberts, the local historian of the *Herald*, spoke on "Henry Woodman, the Valley Forge Historian." The following is an abstract of the address, which may be of interest to some of the readers of the ENTERPRISE:

Henry Woodman was born in the old Woodman Homestead on Trout creek, near Valley Forge, his mother, who was Sarah Stephens, daughter of Abijah Stephens, becoming the wife of Edward Woodman, of Hillsboro, N. C., a soldier of the Revolutionary war and one of those encamped at Valley Forge.

When discharged in 1782, at New York, he and several companions started on their return to North Carolina. Concluding to go home by way of Valley Forge, Woodman was taken sick and remained in the vicinity. Edward and Sarah Stephens Woodman had a number of children—Ruth, William, Abisha, Henry and Mary. Abisha was the father of Mary Woodman, wife of William B. Hahn, both now deceased.

Henry Woodman was born in 1795, on Christmas Day. Brought up amid the surroundings of the campground, at Valley Forge, and imbibing his impressions of the American occupation of the vicinity in 1777-8 from his mother, who had a remarkable memory, he afterwards committed these recollections and impressions to writing, producing an exceedingly valuable record of the encampment.

Early in life he began teaching in the vicinity, varying this occupation with that of conveyancer and surveyor. Havard Walker, living in the neighborhood, still has the compass which he used while engaged in this occupation.

In 1827 Henry Woodman married Mary, daughter of Benjamin Smith, of Wrightstown, Bucks county, settling there and becoming a valued minister of the Society of Friends. He wrote his Valley Forge papers about 1850.

During the last half-dozen years of his life he was bereft of his mental faculties to a certain extent, injuries received from an animal while driving a herd of cows from the pasture to the barn aggravating the difficulty very greatly. He died in 1879, within one day of completing his eighty-fourth year. His widow, who had been an invalid for many years, died three years later, both being buried at Wrightstown. They left numerous descendants, who are among the most intelligent and substantial citizens of Bucks county. Henry's parents are buried at Valley Friends' ground, in Tredyffrin township, Chester county, one of the neatest and best-kept graveyards of the Society in this country. Within its limits repose the remains of a number of Revolutionary officers and soldiers who died during the encampment at Valley Forge.

At the meeting at which E. Roberts spoke, there was exhibited a photograph of Henry Woodman from an ambrotype taken in 1854, when he was in his 59th year. Extracts were also read from recent letters written by his daughter, Mary Smith Woodman, of Buckingham.

Havard Walker, above mentioned, exhibited a bill and receipt from Henry Woodman while teaching school, for tuition for three months, of himself and brother Lewis, rendered to their father, Hananiah Walker, and dated seventy-seven years ago, in 1821. It attracted much attention. There are thought to be but two survivors of Henry Woodman's pupils—Havard Walker and Mary Walker.

From, *Intelligence*  
*Doylstown*  
 Date, *July 16 - 1898*

#### THE DURHAM CEMETERY.

A Paper by Miss Clara R. Laubach—Read at the Buckwampun Literary Society, at Ringing Rocks, July 11th, 1898.

The writer of this sketch cannot think her work complete without an expression of thanks to those gentlemen officially connected with the man-



agement and care of the cemetery, to whom I am so much indebted for the means of securing whatever accuracy may be allowed to belong to the performance.

These gentlemen are not responsible in any way for any statements contained in my article other than such as are found in the minutes of its annual and stated meetings, yet every facility has been cordially given the writer to make herself acquainted with the topography of the cemetery, and with so much of its management as is desirable or proper to communicate.

Thirty-six years ago the following named gentlemen met together for the purpose of forming a cemetery association. We present the names in the order in which they appear on the charter, to wit: Peter Laubach Peter Jacoby, William S. Long, Henry Stover, S. H. Laubach, John Knecht, Jr., Jacob A. Bachman, Daniel Bidleman David Jacoby, David W. Hess, Robert D. Long, Anthony Laubach, William Laubach and John Knecht, Sr. After arranging with the following officers, President Peter Laubach, Secretary D. W. Hess, Treasurer W. S. Long, they purchased land from Henry Stover, in Durham township, which said land is designated in the charter for a place of interment of deceased human bodies forever.

And with this purpose in view they laid out said grounds with sufficient avenues and alleys and buildings then needed, also planted suitable trees and shrubbery and otherwise decorated the same; they also divided the same into plots of ample dimensions for burial, also petitioned the Court of Common Pleas of Bucks county for a charter, filed June 10th, 1862, allowed June 15, 1862, conferring such power, agreeably to an act of Assembly for the objects and purposes above stated.

Charter is recorded book No. 14, page 260, Sept. 23, 1862. Article 1 of the constitution reads: The said company shall be denominated and known by the name, style and title of the Durham Cemetery, and by that name shall have perpetual succession and be able to sue and be sued in any court of law and equity, and may have a common seal and the same at their pleasure to alter or renew, and shall have power to purchase, hold and enjoy to them and their successors any quantity of real estate in Bucks county, not exceeding ten acres, and shall have authority to receive gifts or bequests for the purpose of ornamenting or improving said cemetery and to hold such personal property as may be necessary to carry out the objects of the charter

provided that the yearly income of said corporation shall not exceed the sum of two thousand dollars.

The constitution consists of seven separate articles, covering every needed rule and regulation necessary to a character.

The business of the said corporation is conducted by nine managers, who shall choose a president, secretary and treasurer out of their own number.

The general superintendent may be selected by the managers from any of the plot holders competent for the position. The superintendent's duties are to see that all interments are made in conformity to the plans of said cemetery—to lay out and ornament the grounds of the said company, to erect such buildings therein as may be ordered by the board of managers; also he should keep a record of all interments made in the cemetery, noting the name, age and disease of the subject interred, together with the section and number of the plot in which interment is made, and to see that all the regulations of the board of managers are complied with. No interment can take place without a permit from the superintendent or in his absence from the treasurer.

At the present time there are but four of the charter members living, namely: Peter Laubach, Henry Stover, Samuel H. Laubach and David W. Hess.

Peter Laubach and Henry Stover were elected directors at the organization of the cemetery and have served as directors continuously until the present time. John Knecht also served as director continuously until his decease in April last, 1898. David W. Hess was also one of the original directors, and served as such until May 27, 1871, when he resigned, and took an active part in starting a cemetery in Springtown.

Peter Laubach was elected president at the first election and served as president until May 28, 1892, when he resigned on account of impaired hearing. Whereupon Richard Deemer was elected to that office and fills it at the present time.

David W. Hess was elected secretary at the first meeting and remained as such until May 27, 1871, when he resigned, and Samuel H. Laubach was then elected director and the board selected him as secretary, and he filled that office from that time until May 28, 1892, when he resigned as secretary on account of impaired hearing, but retained the office of director continuously until the present time.

W. S. Long was elected treasurer at the first election and served until May, 1870, and then resigned, and Henry Stover was elected treasurer and served as such until May, 1897, when he resigned on account of old age, and S. H. Laubach was elected to that office.

John Moser was assistant superintendent from 1867 to May, 1870.

John Knecht was elected as superintendent on October 4, 1862, and served as such until his decease in April, 1898.



The members of the board at present are as follows: President, Richard Deemer; secretary, Hon. C. E. Hin-nach; treasurer, S. H. Laubach; super-intendent, Michael Lambert; Peter Lau-bach, Peter Knecht, R. K. Bachman, Henry Stover, Jacob Richard.

Some of the officers have served con-tinuously for many years. Peter Lau-bach was president of the board for thirty years; John Knecht, superin-tendent thirty-six years; S. H. Lau-bach, secretary twenty-seven years; Henry Stover, treasurer twenty-seven years.

The cemetery holds title to six acres and one hundred and sixteen perches of land, situated on elevated ground, near the Durham church; the soil is sand and gravel, geologically known as glacial, or Columbia drift. The view from the cemetery, over cultivated farms and wooded hills, is exceeding-ly beautiful. It is a fitting sleeping place for the dead to sleep their sleep until the resurrection day, when, ac-cording to Revelation, they shall again arise, and the righteous assume a form which the brightest intellect is unable to comprehend or to describe, but the soul, at times, imagines to see the soul, at times, imagines to see the shades of its existence in immortality.

From, *Intelligencer*  
*Doylestown*  
 Date, *July 30, 1898*

## AQUETONG LODGE.

### The Youngest I. O. O. F. Or-ganization in Doylestown.

A Historical Sketch Covering the Early Existence of Aquetong Lodge, No. 193, I. O. O. F., of Doylestown, by P. G. Al-fred Paschall, Prepared for and Read at the Semi-Centennial Anniversary Meeting of the Lodge.

The history of our past is our charac-ter of to-day. What we have done and been is the foundation upon which our future may be built. It is meet, there-fore, that we review our record from time to time, for the satisfaction to be gained from good accomplishments, and

for the lessons to be learned from mis-takes and failures.

Fifty years is beyond the average span of a generation of men. It is but a moment in the cycles of time. It is yet a goodly period of Lodge existence and it is highly fitting and wise as well as pleasant and profitable for us as Odd Fellows to turn to the records of Aquetong Lodge, to study our history, to note our progress, to honor our predecessors and their work, and to gain suggestions and wisdom for ourselves and as guides to our action. On our semi-centennial anniversary is an extremely fit occa-sion to review what we have done, to note our present status and to plan for our future—developing the good and avoiding whatever is inferior, in the light of the wisdom of experience and with the broader fraternity that time has brought to us.

The first record in the old minute book noting the application for and granting of a charter for Aquetong Lodge, No. 193, to be located at Doylestown, and the institution of the Lodge is as follows:

"On the petition of P. G. John G. Michener, of Doylestown Lodge, No. 94; P. G. H. H. Wilson, of Hazleton Lodge No. 65; Bros. George H. Michener, John A. Loux, William Keichline, 5th de-gree members of Doylestown Lodge, No. 94; Oliver Zenk, 5th degree member of State Capitol Lodge No. 70; Isaac Lip-pincott, Lafayette Lodge, No. 18; Silas Thompson, George MacKintosh, Theophilus Cornell, of Doylestown Lodge, No. 94, and Dr. Nathan M. Hill, of Northern Star Lodge, No. 54; a charter was granted for Aquetong Lodge, No. 193, to be located at Doylestown, Penna.

"And whereas, in obedience to said warrant D. D. G. M. C. E. Wright, on the evening of the eighth of June, called a special meeting of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, in the room occupied by Doylestown Lodge, No. 94, and in-stituted Aquetong Lodge, No. 193.

Whereupon said special meeting of the Grand Lodge adjourned."

The general history of the Lodge may be divided into three periods. Its founda-tion—its infancy—its manhood. The first condition continued from the foundation for something like four or five years. Business was quite active. The membership was recruited rapidly and enthusiasm was manifest. Then there was a falling off in interest and attendance. The members failed to be at Lodge and "no quorum" came to be written under the dates of many meet-ing nights. Committees were continued week after week, and little or no work was done. This was more or less gen-eral in the fifties and the early sixties. In the latter period there was some reason for the unfortunate situation at the large and distressing affairs of the Nation superseded other consideration.



During this time Brothers Watson and Hendrie were the mainstays of the Lodge, and had it not been for their continuous and devoted care the charter must have been forfeited and the Lodge ceased its existence. The minutes during much of this period are of the briefest, and often contain nothing but the words "no quorum" under the date—in the well-known hand of Brother Watson.

Taking heart and being encouraged by the introduction of new blood, in the late sixties and early seventies, the Lodge renewed its youth, and became ardently active in its work. This was especially marked about the time of the removal to this lodge room, and the work has been sustained with varying energy until the present time—as shown by the statistics of membership and finance elsewhere mentioned. Of this later period I have omitted detail, as it is yet young for history and many of those active in affairs are with us and still engaged in the good work.

On the evening of July 8th, 1846, the first regular meeting of Aquetong Lodge was held, D. D. G. M. Caleb E. Wright in the principal chair and William Limeburner acting as Vice Grand. Nominations for office for the newly instituted Lodge were made, and election was had with the following result: N. G., George H. Michener; V. G., William Keichline; Secretary, Isaac Lippincott, and Treasurer, John G. Michener. The following well known names were elected members at his first meeting: Dr. William S. Hendrie, Josiah Rich, Richard Watson, Daniel T. Moore, Robert Winder, P. Gilbert and Robert B. Flowers. The subordinate lodge officers were appointed, committees were appointed upon various details of business and Aquetong Lodge began an existence; which, with varying vicissitudes in the early days, but on the whole with successful development and growth has endured unto the present time.

The new lodge gained members rapidly, the second meeting witnessing the election of William H. Ellis and Spencer W. Kirk, and the proposal of Timothy Pickering, Samuel E. Broadhurst, Mathias Shaw, Charles Walker and George Lear, all of whom were subsequently elected. So it continued for some time, and the work of the Lodge became so considerable that a degree lodge was held, on another evening of the week, in order to accommodate the applicants and to secure time for the routine features of the Lodge business.

The first election for officers was held at the time of the institution of the Lodge, July 8th, 1846, as above mentioned. On the 21st of July, the matter having apparently been overlooked at the earlier meetings, John G. Michener was elected Representative to the Grand Lodge. At the same time William S. Hendrie, Josiah Rich and Richard Watson were elected Trustees.

The next election was held December 8th, at which time William S. Hendrie was elected N. G.; Richard Watson, Secretary; and William Kachline, Treasurer. Lodge were elected, George H. Mich-

ener. Two Representatives to the Grand Lodge and William Kachline.

At the third election, May 6, 1847, Richard Watson was elected N. G.; Henry B. Nightingale was made Secretary and William Kachline was continued as Treasurer.

Following this, in January, 1848, Isaac R. VanHorn was elected N. G.; Secretary Nightingale was continued in office and William S. Hendrie was made Treasurer.

From July, 1848, two years after the institution of the Lodge, the following named persons have occupied the principal chair, with the date of the election of each: July, 1848, John A. Loux; January, 1849, H. B. Nightingale; July, 1849, William C. Shaw; January, 1850, William S. Addis; July, 1850, Joseph Young; December, 1850, John Clemens; June, 1851, George W. Garner; December, 1851, William Pickering; June, 1852, David Booz. At this time came the change to March and September as the dates for semi-annual elections and on the 29th of March, 1853, David Robinson was placed in the principal chair, succeeded in the same year by Summers A. Smith. Then the succession was as follows: 1854, March, Valerius Gilbert; September, Edward Armitage. 1855, March, Thomas W. Goucher; September, Thomas D. Wolf. 1856, March and September, Hugh Kintne. 1857 and 1858, March and September, E. Mitchell Cornell. 1859, March and September and 1860, March, Isaac R. VanHorn. 1860, September, William Campbell. 1861, March, Henry D. Livezey, who continued in the office until October, 1864, when John Conger was chosen. Peter C. Shive was elected in March, 1865, and served an entire year, since which time the single term rotation has been observed without break or variation, the following persons having held office: 1866, March, George R. Lear; September, Henry H. Hough. 1867, March, E. W. Bice; September, John Cowgill. 1868, March, W. J. Livezey; September, N. B. Hubbard. 1869, March, R. Henry Trego; September, Benjamin Cadwallader. 1870, March, Edward S. McIntosh; September, James B. Lambert. 1871, March, Charles H. Hall; September, Henry C. McIntosh. 1872, March, Alfred Fackenthal; September, Louis H. Spellier. 1873, March, Henry W. Pierce; September, I. M. Krout. 1874, March, James P. Ott; September, A. C. Vanlivanee. 1875, March, Robert S. Garner; September, John Yardley. 1876, March, Henry Slack; September, Henry C. Michener. 1877, March, Thomas J. Smith; September, Thomas P. Otter. 1878, March, Alfred Paschall; September, Jos. S. Hawk. 1879, March, J. Watson Case; September, Jacob S. Gaul. 1880, March, Horace Fackenthal; September, William H. Vaux. 1881, March, Henry O. Harris; September, William E. Schoch. 1882, March, Burgoyne Rayton; September, W. S. Donaldson. 1883, March, Jerome Fackenthal; September, Sam. G. Fisher. 1884, March, Jas. Garis; September, Charles D. Wright. 1885, March, Joshua Tomlinson; September, Warner Worstall. 1886, March, Paul H. Applebach; September, Americus S.



Hellyer. 1887, March, William Raiké; September, John D. James. 1888, March, John O. Gunagan; September, John R. Bigell. 1889, March, John J. Coates; September, John G. King. 1890, March, William Hoffman; September, Carl H. Kolbe. 1891, March, Isaac G. Price; September, William P. McCoy. 1892, March, Oliver J. Rice; September, William Mason. 1893, March, C. D. Hotchkiss; September, Warren S. Ely. 1894, March, George Watson; September, S. Alan Wilson. 1895, March, William W. Barrett; September, Harrold Otter. 1896, March, Webster Grim; September, Charles Barrett. 1897, March, Horace Myers; September, Harry W. Kelly. 1898, March, Charles A. Vandegrift, the present presiding officer of the Lodge.

As the usual custom of passing the chairs is through the assistant secretary's and Vice grand's positions, it seems unnecessary to recapitulate those officers named, as they almost invariably appear above, in the order given.

The secretaries of the Lodge have served in office for considerable terms, by successive re-elections. After the secretaries above mentioned George Lear was elected July 4th, 1848, but declined the office, and Richard Watson was chosen at the subsequent meeting and served the current term. John Clemens, Jacob Auge and Simon Hoffman followed in the order named, for single terms each. June 25, 1850, Richard Watson was again elected, but declined to serve and John Walton was chosen at the subsequent meeting. Walton served for four consecutive terms. June 29th, 1852, witnessed the re-election of Richard Watson, from which time until March, 1863, he held and administered the office with accuracy and fidelity. In March, 1863, Isaac R. VanHorn was made Secretary and Richard Watson assistant secretary and they were continued in these offices to September 21, 1867, when Henry H. Hough was elected to the secretaryship. Mr. Hough held the office for five terms, being succeeded in March, 1870, by A. W. Heaney. Mr. Heaney served the Lodge for four years, Edward S. McIntosh being elected thereto March 31, 1874. For six years Mr. McIntosh filled the position, during which time the term of the office was made one year instead of six months as it had been theretofore, consistent with the terms of the chairs and appointive positions. Robert S. Garner was elected Secretary March 30, 1880, until March, 1894, a longer period than any previous incumbent. Since March, 1894, Horace Fackenthall has had the position, and is at present serving acceptably as ever.

For Treasurer, except the first eighteen months of the Lodge's existence, three men have held office: Dr. William S. Hendrie was elected to the position January 4th, 1848, and continued a good and faithful servant therein to the day of his death in April, 1875. W. S. Hulshizer proved a worthy successor and held the confidence and cash of the Lodge from April 20, 1875.

In March, 1897, John Yardley was elected Treasurer and has been continuously re-elected since.

For Representative to the Grand Lodge Richard Watson served many terms prior to 1869. I. R. VanHorn, S. A. Smith, Benj. Cadwallader, H. H. Hough, Thomas W. Goucher, Louis Spellier and Henry M. Pierce, served a single term each. Alfred Fackenthall was the Representative for some ten years and Robert S. Garner for a somewhat longer term.

Thomas W. Goucher was first elected janitor July 3d, 1849. He served almost continuously until March, 1876, when W. J. Livezey was elected. Livezey served for three years and A. C. Vanlunee took the duties. From 1879 to March, 1896, Vanlunee served as janitor and at the outer door with a regularity and fidelity which were alike creditable and satisfactory. John R. Bigell was elected at the latter election and is now in office.

During the period of fifty years Aquetong Lodge has had 563 members. Of these there have been 53 deaths of members in good standing. As the membership roll comprises at present 185 names it will appear that there has been a considerable loss through withdrawals and suspensions. Some of this apparent loss is due of course to removals—more of it to neglect. The order is subject to the same failings of humanity that beset other moral, fraternal and religious organizations, and some men come in, who are enthusiastic for a brief time, yet who feel they work and pay for something which they do not derive a direct profit from, and then they grow indifferent and negligent and drop out. This loss is not an unmixed evil, for of those who drop out thus it is clear that most should not have gone in. They do not appreciate and value Odd Fellowship and the order is not what they expected. It is better, under such circumstances, that the winnowing process should proceed, that the survival of the fittest should characterize the Lodge membership and that the unappreciative should not remain in affiliation with what they do not value and will not aid and serve.

There have been at times a number of meetings held for conferring the degree of Rebekah. The old minute books record such events occasionally, but Secretary Fackenthall informs me that no records have ever come to his hands of any complete list of persons taking the degree. One minute in one of the older books contains the proceedings of a Rebekah meeting in full, and there are references to holding others, but this all, and the number, membership and proceedings are believed not to exist.

Aquetong Lodge has always been prosperous, for the reason that it has lived within its income. From the beginning the records show careful and regular consideration of the financial affairs—the business side of the Lodge administration. Whatever else may have been omitted or overlooked, the examination of records of accounts at each half yearly term has been almost



invariable, and with equal regularity the records have been preserved in the minutes by the Secretaries.

In July, 1846, the Lodge started, of course, with nothing. In order to create a fund a sliding scale of initiation fees was adopted \$5 for the first twenty initiates, \$7 for the next ten, and \$9 for the succeeding ten. This was continued but a short time, however, as the minutes of July 20, 1847, show a resolution fixing the fee for all alike at \$7—with a return of \$2 to those who had paid \$9 during the first year. The first report of a committee on accounts, date September 21, 1846, reports that for the first quarter of the Lodge's existence the receipts were \$145.25 and the payments upon orders were \$79.65 leaving a balance on hand of \$65.60, which was the nucleus whence grew the present strength and amount of the investments of the Lodge. At the end of the first year of the operations of the Lodge the balance in hand was \$231.25½—and at many places in other reports this exactitude of statement appears, sometimes even being given to the quarter cent. August 24, 1847, Dr. William S. Hendrie was elected treasurer, to fill the vacancy caused by the withdrawal of Mr. Kachline, and the sum turned over to the newly elected officer was \$198.83. This was augmented and cared for continuously, and at the statement preceding the death of the veteran treasurer, dated April 1, 1875, the Lodge had investments to the amount of \$2600, furniture and regalia valued at \$350, and cash in hand \$207.80. As an indication of the rate of increase and present financial strength of the Lodge it will be sufficient to note the figures of the report of April, 1886, and the last report. In April, 1886, there was invested \$4736; regalia and furniture worth \$876.58, and a balance in hand of \$286.05; in April, 1896, the amount invested was \$9800, the regalia and furniture is estimated to worth \$700, and a balance in the hands of the treasurer of \$211.10.

Thus it will be apparent that the financial progress of the Lodge has been continuously prosperous. There have been losses sustained, as such are inevitable in the affairs of men. Yet taken as a whole the finances present a remarkably strong and satisfactory growth and development upon lines which were well calculated to secure the ends which the best judgment and most prudent foresight only could have suggested.

The figures presented thus far have dealt only with the surplus of Lodge moneys. They represent the investments of the organization beyond the expenses of operation and the distribution of benevolence. The running expenses have necessarily been considerable in fifty years time. Rent, heat, light, furniture, regalia, the secretary's expenses and small salaries, in a half century's existence will aggregate a considerable sum. Yet withal excellent economy has always been observed and large return has been gained and held for the Lodge.

The best investment made, however, and one which is continually blessed to giver as to receiver is the amount dis-

tributed as benefits—the sums which have gone to assist the sick and suffering, to bury the dead, to educate the orphan. Of these amounts, which are loans to the Lord, Aquetong Lodge has made large investments. I am indebted to P. G. Warren S. Ely, for an estimation of the amount, which places the figures at \$23,000. We may not go into the details of these disbursements. They are sacred to Odd Fellowship, but this I can say that they represent the practical side of the fraternal charity which the order inculcates; and that the discrimination used in the distribution of benefits necessarily secures the results intended, with an efficiency and certainty of help that may be gained in no other way. Besides, the explicit benefits distributed by the Lodge to its membership the demands of other charity have not been forgotten. Appeals are constantly coming up and have been for fifty years. Those of a personal nature have frequently been met. In time of great public calamity appeals also have been heard and recognized through the regular channels of the organization; and the help thus extended has not only been prompt but sure, directly applied where it would do most good, and at the same time without risk of loss or diversion from proper uses.

The history of benevolence is the proudest possession of Odd Fellowship. Yet it exists in the hearts of the Order. It is a sacred and unwritten page. It belongs alone in the Lodge room, where the world is shut out, and must be left there—with but the brief statement above given.

It seems fitting that a brief word be said of some of the men, who have gone from works to rewards, whose efforts have served to make Aquetong Lodge what it is. First among these was Richard Watson. In all the prominent offices of the Lodge, except the treasurer'ship, Brother Watson's name appears. He passed the chairs at a very early date after initiation, and thereafter served almost continuously in various capacity, and always most capably, for many years. He was secretary, assistant secretary, trustee, representative in the Grand Lodge, on the committee of accounts and upon the transient committees which did the routine work constantly recurring. While attaining to the highest rank, that of Grand Master of the Grand Lodge and also serving long as District Deputy we find that Brother Watson was constant in his attendance in his own Lodge and an active and helpful participant in affairs. Few men have given as much, certainly none a more eminent and varied service to Aquetong Lodge, certainly none has reflected greater honor upon it, than Richard Watson who was initiated July 8th, 1846, and continued a member to the date of his death in July, 1892, earnest, devoted and eminently capable—a representative Odd Fellow and deservedly a high authority in as well as a most highly esteemed member of the affiliation.

Of the very first members Dr. William S. Hendrie was also devoted and most useful. Having passed the chairs



almost immediately upon being qualified Dr. Hendrie was made treasurer in August, 1847, and continued to hold and exercise the office, until his death, in April, 1875. Brother Hendrie was regular in his attendance upon Lodge meetings, and besides taking care of the cash he served continuously upon the numerous committees to which were assigned the regular routine work. Than the faithful and continuous service bestowed by Brother Hendrie no record has been superior, and much of the credit for the welfare of the Lodge

in its early days must be accorded to the faithful and useful treasurer.

Thomas W. Goucher was another of those early Odd Fellows who gave useful, but consistent and devotedly continuous service to the Lodge. He served in many capacities, but longest in the essential but not highly esteemed position of janitor, to which position he was elected in 1849 and served almost continuously until 1876. He was a bright Odd Fellow and gave much thought and time to the order, as lecture master and also as trustee. He was also at one time representative to Grand Lodge for a term. In the committees and in the business of the Lodge Brother Goucher was an able as well as devoted member and his name frequently appears in the early minutes as assigned or elected to perform many duties.

Henry D. Livezey had a unique record in the Lodge in having served continuously in the principal chair for some three and a half years. This was during the war period, in the early sixties, when a comparatively few members served the Lodge, kept it in running order and preserved the charter in force and effect. He was for some ten years one of the trustees.

Benjamin Cadwallader was another of the early members who gave much service to the Lodge. He was a trustee for some eleven consecutive years, besides serving in other positions by appointment.

Isaac R. VanHorn, besides service as secretary for four and a half years, served a term or two as representative to Grand Lodge and was for ten years one of the trustees. He also served three terms in the N. G. chair.

Hugh Kintner served two terms as N. G. and E. Mitchell Cornell four terms occupied the same position.

Alfred Fackenthal was a conspicuous and active figure in Odd Fellowship in the more recent past. His service in Aquetong Lodge was industrious and constant. Soon after passing the chairs he was elected representative to the Grand Lodge where he served about ten years. His most conspicuous attainments were in the patriarchal branch of the order where he gained the highest rank. As D. D. G. M., Mr. Fackenthal was well known among the lodges of this vicinity, and he was an earnest and enthusiastic exponent of the order.

In 1848, the Lodge began to realize that it owned property which might be destroyed by fire, and an insurance was directed to be effected—first, in specific companies and later in any

company. The last instruction was made mandatory upon the trustees and was passed April 18th.

A few weeks later, in June, occurred an incident which is a part of Lodge traditions. Brother Frank Ferguson, a resident of New Jersey, arrived in Doylestown, with the remains of a daughter, just deceased, and brought hither for interment. Accommodation had been refused him, and he appealed to Odd Fellows for the help and sympathy that money cannot buy. The privilege of the Lodge room was granted to him—the Lodge being in session at the time—in which to deposit the remains of his daughter and from which to conduct the funeral the next day. This event is the reason for the appearance of the picture of Martha Ferguson in the Lodge room, and for the receipt of a most fraternal communication from Chosen Friends' Lodge of New Jersey, of which Brother Ferguson was a member. The funeral sermon, on the above occasion by Rev. Dr. Andrews is said to have been one of the most eloquent ever pronounced by that gifted divine.

In August following a proposition was introduced to purchase a musical instrument, but as other societies using the room would not join in the movement the project was abandoned. The subject after slumbering until August 30, 1870, was brought up again. Again May 26, 1872, that an organ was purchased and Martin Hulshizer authorized to play upon it.

It appears that in the earlier days that there must have been a strong German element in Aquetong Lodge, as provision was made January 8th, 1850, for a set of German charge books. There is no mention of the use of these books, or of the work being done in that language, but the interest was evidently sufficient to secure them for perusal at least.

June 25th, 1850, is recorded a vote of the Past Grands in favor of Richard Watson as D. D. G. M.—which was a part of the ballot which elected him to that position in the month following, where he served most ably and from which he was later promoted to the higher sphere of G. M.

December 17th Thomas W. Goucher was appointed lecture master for Lodges No. 193 and 94—a position he filled with much ability and satisfaction.

In 1853 there were scarcely a majority of meetings held during the year and there were frequent omissions all along about this time. The irregularity continued for some years—fifty pages of the minute book sufficing for the records from January, 1856, to April, 1857.

March 16, 1858, a resolution to rent the Lodge room to St. Tammany Lodge, No. 256, I. O. O. F., upon the same terms as to Lodge No. 94, was passed—which is an indication of the fraternal relations of Doylestown Odd Fellows in the early days—relations which have existed between the Lodges and membership through all the years of the half century just ending.

Not infrequently in the Lodge's history have there been enterprises broached to secure lectures on Odd Fel-



lowship. There was a strong demand for knowledge upon the principles of the order. In January, 1860, there was a minute of a project to have the Hon. Schuyler Colfax speak under Lodge auspices and later it appears that the proposition was carried to fruition and that the eminent Odd Fellow gave a lecture on February 22d in the Presbyterian church. No minute appears however, of the attendance or the scope of the lecture, but there was undoubtedly a goodly gathering of the brotherhood and the dissertation was as undoubtedly pertinent and profitable.

September 20, 1864, a request was received from the Grand Lodge for the list of the members of Aquetong Lodge who were in the military service of the United States. No list appears, though it is certain that there were members of Aquetong Lodge who saw more or less service. At the same time an appeal was received and responded to for a contribution for the benefit of the Lodges at Chambersburg, Penna., which had suffered heavily from the ravages of war.

April 9, 1867, at the election for Grand Lodge officers there were but four past grands present in the Lodge, though one of the members was a candidate for the highest office.

April 1st, 1868, M. W. S. M. Watson installed the officers of Aquetong Lodge—a unique incident and an unusual honor.

May 26th, 1868, a minute notes that a report of the doing of the Grand Lodge was presented, and among other facts states that all of Grand Master Watson's decisions during the year had been approved by the Grand Lodge.

December 1st, 1868, the subject of a proper recognition of the semi-centennial anniversary of the establishment of Odd Fellowship in the United States, was presented in a circular from the Grand Lodge—but after much delay was laid upon the table.

February 2d, 1869, a proposition was brought up to ask James B. Nicholson to lecture before the Lodge. But it seems to have been lost among other affairs. In January, 1872, an effort was made to have the Grand Secretary exemplify the secret work of the order, and an arrangement was made for evening of February 5th following. Then as now Brother Nicholson's presence and co-operation were most heartily appreciated, and the Lodge profited through his counsel and good work which has ever been helpful to and at the service of the best Odd Fellowship. Of possible visitors to Aquetong Lodge none can be more welcome than P. G. S. Nicholson, whose presence to-night we esteem a distinguished honor.

April 26, 1871, a special meeting was held, at which a reception was tendered to Sellersville Lodge and anniversary exercises were held recognizing the 52d anniversary of American Odd Fellowship. A supper was enjoyed later at the hotel of Col. Miller, which occupied the site where Scheetz's store now stands.

Odd Fellows' memorial day was discussed and a committee appointed to make arrangements. The date was

April 25th and plans were laid for a considerable demonstration. Weather interfered with the out door program, but other exercises were enjoyed.

Early in 1875 the subject of a removal from the Academy Lodge room began to be discussed. There was very ardent discussion. There was for a time much difference of opinion as to details. The Lodge desired to have the new room—then just finished in the Lenape Building. The directors of the Improvement Company desired to let their room to a good tenant. But an agreement could not be made on terms and conditions. Finally all agitation ceased and the matter was apparently abandoned for several weeks. Without warning so far as appears P. G. Goucher introduced a resolution, May 25, 1875, to lease this room, for a term of ten years, at a rental of \$200 per annum, with the privilege of subletting to such secret organizations as the Lodge might approve. After some parliamentary sparring the motion passed and the Trustees were so instructed. After the leasing was effected, on June 15th, a committee on removal and furnishing the Lodge room was appointed—Brothers Goucher, Rickert, Hall, Pugh and Case. July 6th the permission of the D. D. G. to the change of location was secured. July 13th, our kindred organizations Lodge, No. 94 and Encampment No. 35, agreed to join in the occupancy of the new Lodge room. July 20, 1875, the last meeting was held in the Academy Lodge room—a long time and fairly satisfactory home—and it was with considerable feeling that the Lodge said farewell.

I quote from a brief minute of P. G. Goucher's sentiments, the veteran janitor reminding the brethren that this was the last meeting of the Lodge in this room. He stated that the Lodge had been there over 27 years; that he had been initiated on the night on which it was first occupied by the Lodge; that he had passed many happy hours here and felt regret on leaving.

Brother Henry C. Michener followed in appropriate remarks, looking hopefully and confidently to the future and expressing the belief that the organization was now about entering upon an era of prosperity hitherto unknown to the Lodge.

Events have justified the wisdom of Brother Michener's prophecy.

The next meeting of the Lodge was held July 27th in this room, which has from that day been the home of Odd Fellowship in Doylestown and where a prosperity and satisfaction never before experienced have been enjoyed in abundant measures by Aquetong Lodge. From a list spread upon the minutes it appears that 69 members and 9 visitors were present—many of whom I recognize in the audience to-night.

The committees in charge had a broad conception of the fitness of things and did well their work, producing what competent judges have termed the finest Lodge room in the State outside the great cities. Here we must take leave of the Lodge—as the records of recent years are scarcely old enough to be treated as history.



and many of the members active in Lodge affairs since its occupancy of these quarters are still industrious and devoted Odd Fellows, engaged in carrying forward the work of the order to a larger sphere and fuller fruition. With respect for the past and veneration for the accomplishments attained Aquetong Lodge cannot stand still but must develop and expand as years go on until the time when the spirit of true Odd Fellowship shall comprehend all men as brothers and embrace the Nations of the world in Friendship, Love and Truth.

## "PAST POLITICS."

History has a Full Day at  
Langhorne.

### FOUR IMPORTANT DISCOURSES.

"Early Scotch Families of Bucks County," "Fresh Studies of Pioneer Tools," "Quakers in Penn's Time," and "Jeremiah Langhorne and His Times."

The mid-Summer meeting of the Bucks County Historical Society, held at Langhorne Park, Tuesday, August 9, was fully up to those that had gone before. The attendance was large, some 400 being present, and the attention paid to the reading of the interesting papers was all that could be asked or expected. Seats were arranged under the trees, and a stand for the officers. The meeting was called to order at 11 o'clock, and, after a few minutes of preliminary business, the literary exercises were begun.

The first paper, "Some Early Scotch-Irish Families of Bucks County," by Warren S. Ely, occupied forty minutes, and was listened to with close attention. It was well written, and the treatment of the subject gave evidence of careful and accurate research. This group of immigrants had never before been treated by members of our Society. The Scotch-Irish were an important factor in settling the State, and their influence, in shaping Penn's colony, was hardly second to that of the Friends themselves. In peace, they have been the peers of any other race in citizenship, in war patriots. They came into central Bucks as early as 1720, settling in Warwick, New Britain, Warrington and Badminister, and from here many of them pushed up to the Lehigh region at a later period.

Notably among these were the Orals and Hunters, whose settlements were important stakes of civilization in the early youth of the Colony, and which furnished some of the sturdiest soldiers when the tussle with the mother country came on. Mr. Ely noted the leading Scotch-Irish families of this section, whose descendants are with us to day; the Wallaces, Louns, Darrahs, Millers, Jamisons, Bairds, Wiers,

Armstrongs and others, whose names will be found among the builders of church and State in Penn's Colony. Some of these men were prominent in Revolutionary times. William Wallace was a member of the Bucks County Committee of Safety, for '75 and '76, practically the Civil power until the Constitution was adopted, and delegate to the first Conference at Carpenter's Hall. His early death in 1777 was a loss to the public service.

The second exercise, on the programme, was by Henry O. Mercer, Esq., "Fresh Studies of Pioneer Tools." This was not a setpaper, but a talk rather from the stand point of "The Tools of the Nation Maker," a favorite subject of Mr. Mercer. It took a wide range, embracing many new points, and was listened to with deep interest. He made reference to his recent visit to the British Isles during which he made some discoveries in archaeology confirmatory of the oft repeated assertion that "all the world is kin." His exhibition of samples of axes, and his explanation of the reason of their difference in construction, was both new and interesting. The axe is a wedge and he showed that while the weight of the European instrument was "on the blade" side, that of the American was on the poll side, the reason that the latter is so much more forceful in felling trees. This was a new line of thought on the subject, and doubtless set ideas at work in the heads of more than one listener. Mr. Mercer said the hatchet is indigenous to America, and giving his reasons therefore. In the exhibits, during his talk, he presented several impressions from the Durham stove plates in the Society's collection—ingeniously taken and of historic interest. The earliest plate is of the date of 1741, and the illustrations on some of them represent interesting episodes in Biblical history, which Mr. Mercer's process of reproduction brought out with great distinctness. Among the exhibits was a "clover stripper," the germ of the reaping machine, thought to be similar to the machine Piloy described in use among the Gauls 1,700 years ago. A point in this discourse was of more than usual interest to the ladies, the presentation of several sun bonnets, which Mr. Mercer got in Ireland, fac similes of the same head-gear worn by our grandmothers in the long ago.

At the afternoon session two papers were read, the first by Mrs. Anna Eastburn Willetts, Haddonfield, N. J.; the second by Samuel O. Eastburn, Langhorne. Mrs. Willetts' paper, entitled, "The Society of Friends in William Penn's Time," and of which your reporter heard only the conclusion, was a carefully prepared review of the Society of Friends in America at the time William was laying broad and deep the foundations on which was builded first his new colony in the wilderness west of the Delaware, and subsequently our magnificent Commonwealth—truly the "Keystone of the Federal arch" in more senses than one. That the Quakers, as the Society was familiarly, and often lovingly, called was the leading influence in this work history does not dare to question. William Penn nor his church, as we may be permitted to call the Society, need no apologist or defence. His colony stands out above and beyond all others in America, and the only one founded on



needs of peace. Mrs. Willette's truthful presentation of the salient points in the Society of Friends is a tribute worth careful reading by all.

The exercises of the day were closed by the paper on "Jeremiah Langhorne and his Times," by Mr. Eastburn, a carefully prepared paper, abounding in many facts not generally known, considerable of the subject matter being drawn from old letters long ago passed into History. Jeremiah Langhorne, son of Thomas, was one of the forceful men of Penn's colony, when men of force were needed to build up the embryo State. He was close to Penn and all the leading men of the colony, in church and State, and his work is engraved on its foundation stone. As Chief Justice he did much to fashion the judicial system. One of the most salient points in his character was his treatment of his negro slaves, some seventy, when he came to lay down the burdens of life, providing for all of them during their lives. His life and work were an honor to the young colony and will live in our history. This closed one of the Society's most successful meetings. Several new members were added to the roll.

From, *Intelligence*

*Doylestown Pa*

Date, *Aug 15 '98*

## SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.

### As It Was in the Days of William Penn.

A Paper by Mrs. Anna Eastburn Willits, of Haddonfield, New Jersey, Read at the Langhorne Meeting of the Bucks County Historical Society, August 9, 1898.

The history of England is largely written in her ancient churches and crumbling ruins, and the student of her historic, literary and religious shrines is irresistibly tempted to live in the past. Will you visit Bristol, England, in 1644, and listen to the joy over the birth of William, beloved son of Vice Admiral Sir William Penn? Far beneath the noble mansion lay the red-roofed city, with devious lanes, ivy covered cottages and grey churches; while all around was a smiling landscape of emerald meadow and culti-

vated field.

Though you search the wide world through, you will never find such cathedrals, so fraught with majesty, sublimity, the loveliness of human art, and the ecstatic sense of a Divine element in human destiny. Those old Monks who built the Abbeys of Britain, laid their foundations, not alone deeply in the earth, but deeply in the human soul.

In the midst of these associations, bounded by tradition, George Fox, Robert Barclay and William Penn taught that the Divine Being speaks directly to the heart of every man; and that teaching was logically "the root of the goodly tree of doctrine which sprang from it." George Fox said "it was his business to point men to Christ and to leave them there," and all the journals of Friends emphasize the truth stated by the Apostle Paul when he said to the Corinthians, "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the spirit of God dwelleth in you?"

This was no new truth George Fox announced to the world, but the message was gladly received by the people, and though long lost sight of, became then a mighty power. The views of Friends made humanity sacred, and every man a brother.

In the days of Penn, the question came continually to them whether they should obey the Lord rather than man. They held their meetings contrary to Parliament, and the order of the Crown; they refused to take oaths, and in divers ways transgressed authority, so that the prisons of England were filled with Friends. At one time forty-two hundred of them were in the gaols, and more than ten thousand altogether, thus suffered, not for any crime or misdemeanor, but because of their stout defense of liberty and their heroic resistance of religious tyranny.

They all practically said with William Penn: "My prison shall be my grave before I will budge a jot, for I owe obedience of the conscience to no mortal man." When driven or dragged from their meeting houses they assembled in the streets, and when the meeting houses were torn down they met on the ruins. Many died in prison, and many more suffered long imprisonment only to resume their life of sacrifice and trial when released. They were courageous, aggressive, bold and unsparing in their denunciation of sin and sinners, but equally tender-hearted, loving and affectionate. Even women suffering the tortures of the lash would kneel and ask God to forgive the men who dealt the blows.

Their labors in those days were marvelous. They preached the Gospel in every town and village in England; then crossed the Atlantic to deliver Christ's message to the Indians and settlers in the land of the setting sun. When did they rest? Noisome prisons



could not have yielded them ease, and yet a sojourn in jail was the only vacation these preachers had. They were all ablaze with the fire of zeal and the light of unselfishness. They did not take up arms against the government, but showed the patriotism of endurance and suffering until the Nation was aroused and Parliament was compelled to pass laws recognizing their liberty of conscience and of worship, in the benefits of which all the civilized world has in a degree partaken.

The protest of George Fox came at a time when William Penn wrote, "England was a benighted and bewildered nation." After the first half century, in which the zeal of Fox, Barclay, Penn and scores of others had gathered one hundred thousand members in Great Britain and America, another era came for them. Internal organization and supervision took the place of evangelizing aggressiveness. But, with it all, the Society has been able to infuse the spirit and essence of George Fox's teachings into the very veins of the modern world; and also his testimony to the spirituality of worship, against ritualism, against the sin of intolerance and abomination of war, the wrongfulness of oaths, and the indwelling of God in believing and faithful souls.

The Friends are an embodiment of great principles, and an incarnation of a grand life. Both these principles and life have entered into the bone and sinew of our Republic, and both are still necessary for the realization of ultimate America.

When seen at their best, the Friends stand in American history for ideal civilization; and this civilization is their contribution to the American Republic. They arose in an age of dogmas and creeds and persecution and reforms and religious revolutions and quarreling ecclesiastics. They took their place among the rank of reformers, and were the most advanced of all. Their gun was a protest, their bullet a principle and their power the inner light. In the days of William Penn their ways and principles spelled anarchy, "but by the slow education of centuries they now spell righteousness, peace and love."

William Penn took the life of Fox, the system of Barclay, the converts of Burroughs and built all into a Commonwealth which gave the Friends the civil embodiment of their cherished ideals, and which gave America, the powerful colony of Pennsylvania, a mighty bulwark in the defense of freedom. Penn paid a large price for the privilege of being a Quaker, and this made him a man to be trusted. He sacrificed the friendship of his home, for his father said of him: "William has become a Quaker, or some such melancholy thing." He was democratic in spirit and gave his colony a constitution and laws full of the genius of humanity and of equal justice.

The liberty of thought granted bore its fruits, and brought the colony due honor and respect. The Declaration of Independence and other historic facts

and reforms took place on Quaker soil, because there was more freedom of thought in Pennsylvania than there was in Massachusetts. The Friends believed in religious liberty, while the Puritans denied it. They were most liberal in their opinions and were foremost in philanthropy, and all the advanced ideas of the modern world. The Puritan was opposed to high living and the pleasures of the table, but

was devoted to learning and literature.

The Friends seem to have had no rule which prohibited very liberal hospitality, and this pleasant feature of the home extends to the present day. But what they lacked in the higher education they made up in the home. As with crime and pauperism they took the elementary training of their children in their own special care.

William Penn in a letter to his wife wrote about his children: "For their learning be liberal. Spare no costs; for by such parsimony all is lost that is saved." Early Friends were exceedingly careful to avoid all such things as savored of costliness and finery. As William Penn says, "If thou art clean and warm, it is sufficient; for more doth rob the poor and please the wanton." The code of laws which he prepared for the provinces was exalted in aim, comprehensive in scope and the details marvelously practical.

The great colony was established on the most liberal and advanced principles of his time. How attractive to Penn must have appeared a home for his pure faith in the virgin woods, in a commonwealth reared afresh out of nature by manly effort and adventure, where he could try the experiment of his principles in the truest form. From 1682 to 1776 the province of Pennsylvania was the Friends. They controlled its policy and legislation down to the summer of 1776, when their power was destroyed almost in a moment.

During the first seventy years the political history of the colony may be said to be exclusively a history of the Friends, because the Church of England people, who were their opponents during the time, were so few in numbers that they played a comparatively insignificant part. The Friends developed the civil liberty of the province, and worked out a body of Constitutional liberty, which at the time of the Revolution gave Pennsylvania such a satisfactory form of government, that it was a great obstacle in the way of the movement for independence. Ultimately, the ecclesiastical Quaker triumphed over the political, and the body settled down into a growing conviction that for them, obedience to righteous laws, and passive resistance to unrighteous aims, constituted the burden of a Friend and duty to the government.

The Indian policy of the Friends has been immortalized on canvas and in print, and from generation to generation the belts of wampum, which ratified the many treaties were handed down "as witnesses betwixt us and you of these agreements." President Sharps, of Haverford College, in his book



"A Quaker Experiment in Government," says, "As long as exact justice prevailed, peace existed" and this is the lesson of Pennsylvania.

A prominent Divine says: This is the message of the Quaker fathers to the patriotic sons of America. "If you would render your country the highest service and lead it forward to the millennial age, be an intellect to your country, think for it; be a conscience for your country, make moral decisions for it, and think and decide within the lines of God's holy law. If you would render your country the highest service, be the Lord's prophet to your country; dream dreams for it, and see visions for it." Hold up ideals before the people, and you will attain a civilization embodying your ideals and the Society of Friends may become, in God's providence, the gathering place of the mighty hosts who profess the name of Christ.

From, *Intelligences*  
*Dorchester Pa*  
 Date, *Aug 26 + 7 / 98*

## WARMINSTER.

### History of the Township by Rev. D. K. Turner. 76

Prepared and Read Before an Educational Institute Held at Ivyland—Some Early Settlers—Old Lines of Travel—Eminent Persons of the Locality.

Previous to the arrival of William Penn in this country the Swedes had made some settlements in the territory west of the Delaware river, but it does not appear that they had ventured far into the interior. This township was in 1682 almost an unbroken wilderness, not, however, covered with so dense a growth of forest as subsequently; for it is stated in Martindale's History of Byberry and Moreland, that at first white people found timber suitable for building rather scarce; the cause of this no doubt being the habit of the Indians to burn the underbrush annually. After the natives removed westward before the advancing tide of civiliza-

tion, the woods became thicker and the supply of logs and lumber more abundant, which continued to be the fact till the present century.

No long after Philadelphia was founded much of the land in this vicinity was purchased from Penn, but not all occupied by the original proprietors. Among the first purchasers were John Rush, John Hart, Abel Noble, William Bingley, Nathaniel Allen, George Randall and John Jones. John Hart was in his early manhood a prominent minister of the Society of Friends, and when a division occurred in the denomination under the leadership of George Keith, he took part with the seceders, and subsequently united with the Baptists. He is spoken of as a man of unusual natural ability and eloquence. Before leaving England land he secured the grant from Penn of 1000 acres, which after his coming he located in Byberry and Warminster. The part in this township was between the Bristol and Street roads near what is now Johnsville. There he resided from 1695, about twenty years till his death in 1714, during which period he preached to a small congregation in the private house of John Swift, which ultimately grew into the Southampton Baptist Church. A portion of the 500 acres Mr. Hart owned in this neighborhood remained in the family of his descendants more than 170 years. The village of Ivyland was planted on it, and we are now gathered on a spot that was often trodden by the feet of that noted pioneer in the planting of the institutions we enjoy.

Another of those, who early crossed the ocean and made their home within our bounds, was Bartholomew Longstreth. He left his native country, Yorkshire, England, in 1698, and bought a tract near Edge Hill, which he improved and occupied some time, but at length disposed of it, and purchased in 1710 from Thomas Fairman in Warminster 500 acres between the Bristol and Street roads, north of the present Davisville. In process of time he increased his property to the extent of a thousand acres. One of his great-grandchildren, David Longstreth, was a surveyor and conveyancer, and had a boarding school at the ancestral home a considerable period, where many young men received a sound education. The homestead of the Longstreth family was in their hands five generations, but in 1850 was sold to Isaac Rush Kirk.

The limits of this sketch do not permit me to give a particular account of many of the earliest Europeans, who settled here. This township was closely associated at first with Southampton, and in the map of the region around Philadelphia, prepared by Holme in 1684, the two were almost identified. They were united in the election of officers until 1712, at which period the separate existence of Warminster began. Before that time the inhabitants were few, as may be seen in the fact, that the tracts set off to



different purchasers were 500 or 1000 acres in extent. I will now give some statements in regard to the villages in the township.

Hartsville was formerly called Hart's Cross Roads after a family of the name of Hart. Colonel Joseph Hart and John Carr in 1786 bought the mill north of the village though the Colonel had resided in the vicinity a number of years previously, and kept a tavern on the Warwick side of the Bristol road, which divides the two townships. The York road which crosses the Bristol road at this point, was laid out at different times in sections, that portion which runs through Warminster from north to south having been applied for to the council of Pennsylvania in 1710, and opened not long after. Most of the village of Hartsville is in Warminster, only a half dozen houses including the hotel being in Warwick. The York road was formerly the main thoroughfare between New York and Philadelphia, before railroads were built, and stages used to run upon it, tradition says, at the rate of eight or ten miles an hour. They were in the habit of stopping at the Hartsville hotel, and when they came down from the north the driver would blow his horn on Carr's hill, three quarters of a mile away, as a signal, and it was heard by the landlord. Benjamin Franklin, having been appointed in 1754 by a convention of delegates from the American Colonies Assistant Postmaster General, used to go up and down this road looking after the affairs of the mails of the country in a one-horse chaise.

What a wonderful change has taken place in 140 years in the magnitude and expense of the postal system of this great Nation!

The first physician, who ever practised medicine in Hartsville, was Dr. John Beatty, the oldest son of Rev. Charles Beatty, pastor of Neshaminy church between 1743 and 1772. Dr. Beatty graduated at Princeton College in 1769 in the first class that received their degree of Bachelor of Arts under the Presidency of Dr. John Witherspoon, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. He studied for his profession with Dr. Rush, of Philadelphia, in 1770 and 1771, and commenced practice at Hartsville, near his father's home, in the house now owned by Miss Marietta Long. Rev. Mr. Beatty died in Barbadoes, in the West India Islands, in 1772, and his son, John, was one of the executors of his estate. Duties in this connection occupied much of his time. In 1774 he married Mary Longstreth, a young lady living near Princeton, and soon removed to that town. He served in the army of his country during the Revolution and rose to the rank of Colonel, and afterwards held many positions of honor and trust in New Jersey.

For a long period Hartsville had no resident physician, the people in sickness being attended by Dr. Batchelder, an eccentric, but skillful man from Hatboro; Dr. Gove Mitchell and Dr.

Charles Hill, of the same place, Dr. Jones, of the Three Tuns, and others. About 1840 Dr. William M. Mann, a graduate of the Pennsylvania University Medical School, established himself in the village, married Miss Catharine Steinmetz, whose childhood home had been in Philadelphia, and for more than thirty years occupied a large place in the confidence and esteem of the citizens. In the decline of life he sold his practice to Dr. Guiltian Cornell and removed to Philadelphia, where he died a few years since aged 70 years.

Dr. Cornell, who was born in Warwick and educated in Philadelphia, remained in the neighborhood a brief period, when he followed the advice, "Go West, young man," and sought the waving prairies of Kansas, where he still resides.

He was succeeded by Dr. William E. Doughty, who has been at different times a member of the township board of school directors, and with whose name and character you are all familiar. Concerning him I need only say, that he is an able physician, and one of our most intelligent and public spirited men.

Hartsville is the seat of the Presbyterian church of Neshaminy in Warminster. It is one of the two branches into which the original church of Neshaminy was divided. In the latter congregation a difference of opinion arose in 1838 in regard to the choice of a pastor, a portion favoring the election of Rev. James P. Wilson, and nearly or quite as many being opposed to him. His opponents withdrew and worshipped by themselves, at first in the old stone school house in the graveyard, afterwards for two or three years in a temporary tabernacle in the woods of William Long, near the Bristol road, in Warrington.

By advice of the Court of Bucks county the meeting house and other property of the original church was put up at public sale and bought by those, who adhered to Mr. Wilson, for \$6000. They paid half of this sum to the other side, who in 1842 built the house of worship that now stands in Hartsville. It has been repaired and improved two or three times, but it is for the most part as it was when first erected, a substantial, neat and handsome stone building. A graveyard was laid out in the rear, in which have been deposited the remains of many, who were more or less intimately connected with the congregation. The pastors have been Rev. Thomas B. Bradford, Rev. Henry R. Wilson, D. D., Sr., Rev. Jacob Belville, D. D., Rev. Alexander M. Woods, Rev. Gershom H. Nimmo and Rev. Henry I. Nicholas, who still fills the pulpit.

The hamlet, in which the Warminster post office is located, can hardly be denominated a village, as it consists of only four dwellings including the hotel, a blacksmith's shop and necessary barn and outbuildings. A store was maintained there quite a number of years between 1840 and 1860 by William Glasgow, Esq., but being



also engaged in agriculture he gave up merchandize and closed out the concern, which has never been revived. The hotel has been established there well nigh a hundred years and has had many landlords. Among them may be mentioned Thomas Beans, who in the early part of this century was the proprietor, and kept fleet horses. He was accustomed to have them race upon the Street road near his place, as for half a mile or more it is nearly a dead level. In this hostelry the township elections have been held for several generations.

Johnsville is located where the road from Hatboro to Richborough crosses the Street road. In the beginning of this century the ground on which it stands was almost entirely covered with forest. It is said to have taken its name from John Craven, whose father, James Craven, in 1814 erected a store on one of the corners, which has continued to be a place of trade until the present time. Gradually building lots were sold, dwellings reared, and mechanics and retired farmers seated themselves there, and now twenty-five or thirty houses adorn the vicinity. A station on the North East Penn. railroad, half a mile west of the village, bears its name. For many years between 1850 and 1870 Robert Beans, a skillful, ingenious mechanic, carried on the manufacture of agricultural implements, principally reaping and mowing machines, and employed a goodly number of hands. The establishment having been destroyed by fire, it was not rebuilt.

A short distance above Johnsville, on the Street road, is the Warminster Friends' Meeting House. It is a branch of the Horsham meeting, in Montgomery county, and by order of the latter a monthly meeting was allowed and a small stone house of worship erected about 1840. It is not a separate organization, but is still under the supervision and care of its parent in Horsham. In the graveyard back of the meeting house quite a number of deceased Friends and others have found their last resting place. Among those who have been active in managing the affairs and conducting the religious services of this meeting have been Comly Hampton, Charles Bond, Charles Kirk, Samuel Walker, Thomas Parry and their wives.

Charles Kirk was an elder in the Horsham meeting and was one of those who labored for the erection of the Warminster meeting. He often went to distant places on religious missionary tours and crossed the mountains six times in company with others on errands of that kind. He held various offices of trust by the gift of his fellow citizens, being frequently school director, and was guardian for minor children, trustee and executor of many estates, and his integrity and benevolence were never questioned.

I have already alluded to Ivyland, but it will not be amiss to say something further in regard to its origin and progress. The North East Penn. railroad was laid from Glenside sta-

tion on the North Penn. railroad to the county line in 1872 and was extended to the Bristol road in 1875. About that time J. Lacey, of Makefield, conceived the idea of founding a village near what was then the terminus of the North East Penn. branch, and with that in view purchased about forty acres of land from the estate of John Hart, lying west of the road leading from Jacksonville to Hatboro. It was regularly laid out in streets and alleys; a large, handsome hotel was erected at a cost of about \$17,000; a railroad station was secured and all the necessary steps were taken to promote the growth and prosperity of the infant town.

No intoxicating liquor was to be sold within its bounds and a provision to that effect was inserted in the deed for each lot. The advance of the place in buildings and population has been steady until the present time, but unfortunately it was not rapid enough to indemnify Mr. Lacey for the expense he and his coadjutors were obliged to incur and proved to them a heavy pecuniary loss.

Breadyville is another of the villages of Warminster and is situated on the Bristol road, partly in Warwick. It was formerly the seat of the Hartsville station on the North East Penn. railroad, but about six years ago the two stations, Hartsville and Ivyland, were incorporated in one bearing the latter name. The land, on which most of the village is built, was bought from the Misses Margaret and Catharine Bready, daughters of John Bready, who was a resident of the neighborhood for more than half a century. The part in Warwick formerly belonged to the late Griffith Miles.

I will now turn your attention to the schools that have been maintained in the township. The first, of which we have any knowledge, was Log College, founded by Rev. William Tennet, Sr. He was from Ireland and came to this country in 1716. In the old country he had been an Episcopal clergyman, but soon after reaching our shores for conscientious reasons, pertaining to doctrine and church government, he united with the Presbyterian church. His first pastorate was at Bedford, N. Y., not far from New York City, where he labored from 1720 to 1726, at which time he received an invitation from the people of Neshaminy to make his home with them. It is supposed that he commenced his school for the education of young men for the ministry soon after he reached Bucks county, but where it was first held is unknown. He bought a farm of 100 acres in Warminster in 1735 and in the deed which conveyed it, he is spoken of as "of Northampton" which proves that he could not have then resided in this township, as the two townships were distinct. The property he purchased was on the York road, nearly half a mile north of the Street road, and a few years after his death came into the possession of Bernard Carrell, by



whose descendants it was held two or three years ago, when it passed into the hands of Mr. Aiman, of Cheltenham.

On his plantation Mr. Tennet erected on the east side the York road a log building, believed to have been two stories high, eighteen by twenty feet in dimensions. His dwelling was directly opposite on the west side of the York road. Here for about eight years he conducted a Seminary, in which young men were taught Latin, Greek and Hebrew and other branches necessary to fit them to preach the Gospel.

Charles Beatty, a young peddler, one day called at the door of the institution and addressed Mr. Tennet in correct Latin. The good man, surprised to hear that language spoken, entered into conversation with the youthful stranger and finding him bright, tolerably well educated and pious, said to him, "Go, sell the contents of your pack and return here, and stay with me and become a minister." The advice was followed and after a few years Mr. Beatty became the successor of Mr. Tennet in the pastorate of the church at Neshaminy. In that school twelve of fifteen young men talented and devoted to their work, were trained for the sacred office, who afterwards stood high in their profession. It is with great probability regarded by many as the germ of Princeton University, as Mr. Tennet died in May, 1746, and almost immediately after, the incipient steps were taken for founding a college between New York and Philadelphia by those who sympathized with him in his views and principles; and that institution after two or three removals was located at Princeton.

The general public school law of Pennsylvania was adopted about 1850. Previous to that time there were a number of schools in Warminster, which were conducted by teachers paid by parents of the pupils, in buildings erected by combined efforts of people in the vicinity. At first the teachers were paid three cents a day for each scholar and they boarded from house to house, a week at each place. Subsequently the terms were three dollars a quarter, or a dollar a month for each pupil, and the teacher paid for his board at a fixed place. Often the number of scholars in winter rose to 35 or 40, but the average for the year was usually less. The branches generally pursued were the three "R's," reading, writing and arithmetic, occasionally geography and grammar, and sometimes though rarely geometry, mensuration and surveying.

A school house was built, perhaps before this century, on land that belonged many years to Joseph Barnsley, Esq., and is now the property of Joseph Barnsley, his nephew, near the Willow Dale school. It was built of logs and was standing till 1850, when the lots now occupied was exchanged for the old lots, and a stone edifice reared on the new ground. This has been much improved of late years, and

by the efforts of Dr. W. E. Doughty and others has been furnished with a fine bell. Some of the teachers were Gideon Prior, William Wright, John Griffith, Abel Beans, Elijah Beans, Benjamin Shoemaker, David Moody, John Craven, John Ramsey, Robert Winder.

Another school which was partly supported by patrons in Warminster was in the edge of Warwick, just outside the graveyard of Neshaminy church, on ground which is now within the cemetery. The first structure erected there was of logs, but the date of its erection has not come down to us. It may have been not far from the time when the first church of Neshaminy was reared, 1726. In the early part of this century it was taken down and rebuilt of stone and afterwards used as a fountain of knowledge more than fifty years. For a long period that was the only school house within a radius of three or four miles. Some of those, who wielded the rod there, either in the log or the stone building, were James Grey, William Long, Gideon Prior, John Emory, Alfred Carpenter, Dr. Bryan subsequently of Doylestown; Mr. McKean, of Easton; Azariah Prior and John McNair, who were afterwards members of Congress from Montgomery county; Samuel Long, Rev. Mahlon Long, Samuel Hall, Esq., and Miss Caroline Downer, afterwards Mrs. Timothy Whiting.

Another of the schools of this township was situated on the road from Johnsville to Richborough in what was long known as Hart's school house. The original edifice was erected previous to 1756 but it was small and inadequate to the wants of the neighborhood and in that year was removed and a larger one took its place. It stood on a lot on the farm of Daniel Longstreth about a quarter of a mile south of the Bristol road. Not only the ordinary exercises of a day school were held in it, but debates often took place there in winter evenings on a variety of civil, political and moral questions, and classes in singing met to tune their voices under the guiding wand of some popular instructor. In 1765 Thomas Hancock was employed to teach the day school for a year, with a salary of fifty-five pounds, Pennsylvania currency, or \$146.66.

In 1831, the second building on the spot having been in use seventy-five years was replaced by a third of larger dimensions, 20 by 25 feet. The teachers in this edifice were Elijah W. Beans, William Maddoc, Isaac W. Spencer, Tyson Lukens, Gilbert Blaker, John A. Thornton, M. D., Miss Ann Eliza Hart, Miss S. Fell, of Buckingham, and Miss Elizabeth Croasdale. After the adoption of the present school law, about 1850, this seminary of learning was abandoned and in a few years was seen no more.

About 1835 Robert Darrach, Joseph Hart, John C. Beans and some others began to realize the importance of having better educational facilities for



their children than the vicinity afforded, and it was determined to establish a seminary of somewhat higher grade than most common schools. Accordingly a small house was reared on the farm of Mr. Darrah which was enlarged about 1845, and in it many of the young people of the neighborhood received training in ordinary English branches and in many instances in Latin, Greek, French and advanced mathematics and young men were prepared for college. The teachers were Miss Howe, of Philadelphia; Miss Margaret Bliss, of Springfield, Mass.; Miss Doane, Miss Lucy Griswold, of Connecticut; Henry A. Boardman, James A. Darrah, Mahlon Long, William C. Sturgeon, Charles S. Stone, Douglas K. Turner, Joseph D. Nichols, and Miss Emily Darrah, the late Mrs. E. Nichols. The school house is still standing on the property of R. H. Darrah, but not in use.

About 1838 John C. Beans inaugurated a seminary of a similar character to the one just spoken of, on his farm near the turnpike between the Street road and the county line. It was opened in what had been a log house, but which was soon obliged to give way to a better frame building. Among the instructors were Miss Anna Craven, afterwards Mrs. Hugh Mearns; Elizabeth McNair, sister of Hon. John McNair; George Hart, A. B., now residing in Philadelphia; Charles Meredith, Miss Sarah Yerkes, now Mrs. A. J. Hay and Joseph D. Nichols, A. B. This shrine of knowledge has been moved from its first location to a spot further west and has been converted into a tenant house.

In 1851 Rev. Jacob Belville, who had recently become pastor of the church in Hartsville, associated with himself Mrs. Harriet McElroy, of Lambertville, N. J., in the organization of Roseland Female Institute. It was located in a handsome dwelling, erected about 1842 by Rev. James P. Wilson, Jr., pastor of the Neshaminy church, of Warwick, on a lot of thirteen acres, adjoining the Hartsville church. This institution was designed for girls and young ladies and it was expected that most of them would be boarding pupils from other places, though day scholars from the vicinity were not excluded, and in the course of its history a considerable number of the daughters of the neighborhood were trained for usefulness there. At the expiration of the first year Mrs. McElroy withdrew from her connection with the school and Mr. Belville became the proprietor and continued at its head with assistants till 1865, when he was called to the pastorate of the Presbyterian church in Holmesburg, and the Institute was closed.

For a number of years between 1835 and 1845 Rev. James P. Wilson, Jr., had a boarding school for boys in the house now occupied by R. Thompson Engart, at the junction of the Norristown and York roads, and toward the close of its existence his brother, Matthew Wilson, conducted it for a

short period. Very few pupils, however, were instructed in it from the neighborhood.

Allusion should be made also to Emlen Institute, for Indian and colored boys, Samuel Emlen, of Burlington, N. J., who died in 1837, left by will \$20,000 to found a manual labor school for children of African and Indian descent. It was first located in Ohio, where a farm of 192 acres was bought in 1843, for \$1000. But it was discovered that it was too far from Philadelphia, where most of the managers lived, and after being carried on with success fourteen years the property was advantageously sold and the school transferred to Solebury township, Bucks county, Pa. Here it remained about fifteen years. The soil however was poor at its new home, and it was removed to Warminster, where a farm with excellent buildings was purchased for \$10,000, on the Street road, a mile northwest of the York road. This was its final resting place. Three or four years ago its friends found it difficult to secure funds sufficient to meet expenses and the efforts to continue it longer was abandoned. The design, however, was to appropriate all the funds of the school to some other institution, founded on similar principles and with a like object.

One of the most remarkable men that ever resided in Warminster was John Fitch, the inventor of the steamboat. Robert Fulton, of New York, has been generally credited with the honor of first successfully applying steam to the propulsion of vessels on the water, but really Fitch preceded him in the invention about 25 years. This ingenious man was born in Windsor, Conn., but came to Pennsylvania during the Revolutionary War, and joined the patriot army. He was found to be a skillful lock and gunsmith, and was employed most of his term of service in repairing the muskets of the soldiers. For some years after the close of the struggle with Great Britain he was engaged in surveying western lands, but at length settled in our township and carried on the manufacture and repair of watches and jewelry in the shops of Jacobus Scout, commonly called "Coby Scout," and Charles Garrison, west of Davisville.

One day he was returning on foot from meeting at Neshaminy, where his friend Rev. Nathaniel Irwin was pastor, when a chaise passed him, and he thought how desirable it would be to ride in a vehicle not drawn by a horse. This led him to ponder the subject of applying steam as a motive power to wheeled vehicles. After some days this idea was given up, and he turned his mind to propelling boats by steam. With great eagerness he set to work and ere long made a model of a boat run by steam, which he showed to Mr. Irwin and others, and which was first tried on a dam either in the southeastern part of Warminster or in Southampton, just over the line, in the presence of a number of spectators.



Fitch was poor and want of means prevented him several years from building a large boat. But in 1788 his repeated persevering efforts were rewarded. A company was formed, a boat of considerable size was constructed, carrying passengers and freight, and run with a degree of regularity all summer on the Delaware river between Philadelphia and Trenton, and at times it made trips to Chester and other points south of the city. Lack of money hindered Fitch from bringing his invention into general use and all persons who were interested in commerce by sailing vessels were arrayed against him. Like many other men of important, original ideas, he was in advance of the age in which he lived.

Warminster did her share in furnishing men and arms for the patriotic cause in the Revolution. The battle of the "Crooked Billet" was partly fought within her bounds, and some of those who were wounded in that engagement died within her limits. When Washington was encamped, in 1777, on the banks of the Neshaminy, a part of his army had their tents in the northeasterly part of this township. But time and your patience forbid that I should dwell longer upon these themes and I will close, thanking you for your kind attention.

Q. L. B.  
74/105  
95















